



NEWS

Denver Botanic Gardens
January 1990
Number 90-1



"Flowers from the Royal Gardens of Kew" Exhibit January 13 to February 4

A treasure arrives every three months in our Helen Fowler Library: *Kew Magazine*, formerly published — for over 200 years — as *Curtis Botanical Magazine*. It's the only color-illustrated periodical in the world to continue, uninterrupted, for two centuries.

In 1987, to celebrate this magnificent perseverance, the magazine's new publisher, the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, England, sorted through the more than 10,000 original illustrations in the magazine's archives and assembled a history-spanning exhibition of 95 frames to tour the United States.

For security purposes the sites for the display were chosen carefully; Denver Botanic Gardens has been selected as one. Soon you'll have the once-in-a-lifetime chance to view "Flowers from the Royal Gardens of Kew," the original hand-colored engravings, lithographs and water-colors you've previously enjoyed only as plates reproduced in the magazine.

The originals offer a fresh view of their botanical subjects. Their texture and delicate nuances are unreproducible by even the best printing techniques. There's also the occasional artist's notation you'll encounter that was deleted in publication. For instance, underneath her rendering of *Oenothera acaulis*, an evening primrose native to Chile, Lilian Snelling has penciled "At night, 9:30 p.m. to 4:30 a.m., August 26, 1930." Gazing at this ethereal work you're forced to wonder how the artist, working through the summer night with artificial light, could so beautifully capture the crisp white purity of these blossoms, with their soft cherry border, and convey the delicate texture of those petals only a few living cells thick.

Botanical illustration has seldom been appreciated as fine art by critics and historians of other genres. Perhaps only a gardener who has knelt in the dirt to marvel at a plant of his own nurturing, translucently silhouetted in early morning light, or a botanist who has caught her breath at a wildflower glowing among pine shadows can truly appreciate the artistry in these works.

Pandora Sellers' graphically bold, 1984 page-filling presentation of *Arisaema costatum* of Nepal and Susie Ray's 1985 close-up of a mass of *Magnolia Albatross*' blossoms rival the floral works of Georgia O'Keefe, which they strongly bring to mind.

continued on page 3

Inside:

Sponsor and
Volunteer
Thanks page 3

Old-Fashioned
Flowers page 4

Community
Garden
Registration
page 5

Anemone buch-
arica from
"Flowers from
the Royal Gar-
dens of Kew"
exhibit.



Thanks to the SCFD

The first funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District helped stabilize the Gardens' financial base during 1989. Use of the funds was aimed at improving the physical plant, advancing our programs and stepping up the maintenance of our collections.

Outreach to the public was enhanced by our being able to allow free entry for school children from all six counties in the SCFD and by restoring hours in the Helen Fowler Library. We also issued a new brochure for Chatfield Arboretum and began a new combined map and four-color brochure for DBG.

One very noticeable result of the funding was our hiring a chief of maintenance operations. We also added gardening staff and outdoor displays.

The SCFD funds enabled considerable improvements and renovation in the Peony Garden, the turf test plots, Wingsong Garden, the Low Maintenance Garden and part of the "garden of rooms" area.

In the Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center garden walls were repaired, in the conservatory the waterway was sealed with fiber glass to control leaks and boilers were repaired and in classroom A new cabinets were built. At Chatfield a new Cushman cart and a sprayer were added and various tasks undertaken that will help us serve visitors there after the arboretum's scheduled opening in April of 1990.

Our visitors will notice new stage curtains, carpet and paint in John C. Mitchell II Hall. The adjacent preparation room is also being refurbished.

Without doubt the year has seen progress and improvement to the entire Gardens because of the SCFD funds, and with continued help 1990 will be more secure.

Your votes in November of 1988 certainly counted and are appreciated—for the work ahead at Denver Botanic Gardens.

Andrew Pierce
Acting Director



"Botanical Treasures IV" Made Possible by Many

"Botanical Treasures IV" was a smashing success thanks to our sponsors and many wonderful volunteers. Turner Art Gallery, once again, provided an outstanding selection of botanical and natural history prints. Howard Lorton Galleries, new to the show, offered a refreshingly elegant addition. Their room displays caught the eyes of all who attended the show and sale.

A key element to the success of any event is the dedication of volunteers. "Botanical Treasures IV" had that important element. A special "Thank you" from the staff of the Gardens is extended to Julie Harrington, chairman for the preview party and hostesses; Rob Proctor and Mike Eagleton, the illustrators; all of the volunteers who served as hostesses as well as those wonderful bakers who prepared over 70 dozen cookies; and Kent and Angela Lewis and the staff of Turner Art Gallery along with Bill Cook and the staff of Howard Lorton Galleries. Special thanks go to these angels for their efforts and commitment.

Denver Orchid Society Trip

The Denver Orchid Society has organized an exciting excursion to Costa Rica in March. It will include the San Jose orchid show, the Carara Biological Reserve, trips to buy orchids, and visits to beaches, rain and cloud forests, a volcano and more. If you're interested call former DBG trustee Ed Horton, 794-4819.

Green Thumb News Number 90-1 January 1990

Published monthly by the Denver Botanic Gardens education department, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Patricia A. Pachuta and Carolyn Knepp. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in the Botanic Gardens. For membership information, please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000.

Deadlines for this newsletter are: Major news stories, feature material (including photographs or artwork), and short notes are all due not later than December 20 for February, January 19 for March and February 20 for April.

Late material cannot be used. Stories must be typed, double-spaced, preferably on copy paper provided by the editors. Please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20, for details.



Tributes

In honor of J. Churchill Owen
John & Gloria Falkenberg

In memory of Albert Carroll
Deanie & John Andersen
Paul & Mara Andersen

In memory of Eleanor Casebolt
Susan Coombe
John & Gloria Falkenberg
Elizabeth Heacock
Solange Gignac
Lucy Kissell
Eugene & Mary Rieger

In memory of Cecile Guilbeault
Solange Gignac

In memory of Elinor Loeb
Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Stapleton
In memory of Fern and Ronald C. Martin
Shirley Newsom

In memory of Mrs. Marcella McMillin
Mrs. Clifford F.L. Mohr

In memory of Mary F. Neely
Jim, Dee & Mich  el Pierce

In memory of Mrs. J. Churchill (Peg) Owen (Restricted to the Alice Mann Owen Internship)

Howard & Rose Kast
Charles K. Owen
Kathryn Thompson
Lucius & Ruth Woods

"Flowers from the Royal Gardens of Kew"

continued from page 1

The engraving of *Helleborus niger* by Sydenham Edwards, 1787, could have credibly graced a fine medieval tapestry.

Today the magazine prints its plates of beautiful pencil and water-color drawings, meticulous in scientific detail, with the offset color printing process. From the magazine's inception in 1787 until 1948, however, the illustrations in each copy were painstakingly hand colored.

Plates from the magazine are scarce; there have never been more than 3,000 subscribers at any one time. Prints surface only occasionally in rare showings of botanical plates, such as in Denver Botanic Gardens' annual Botanical Treasures show and sale (November).

In conjunction with the Kew-originated exhibit this month, Denver Botanic Gardens will publicly display a rich sampling of the plates in the editions from its own collection of Curtis and Kew's magazines, from the second volume to the present. Some of these are housed securely in the library's Waring Rare Book Room and only available for study by appointment and under supervision.

A catalog of the exhibit, created by Ruth L. A. Stiff, a specialist in biological art history, will be for sale during the exhibit's short Denver stopover. She was instrumental in organizing and mounting the exhibit. Her catalog includes pertinent data on the works, as well as biographical information on the many artists who have contributed to the magazine's consistent excellence. You will find the introductory essays by Christopher Grey-Wilson and R. G. C. Desmond especially interesting for their illumination of William Curtis and his enduring, beautiful magazine. The 48 gorgeous one-to-a-page plates in the catalog destine it to be a lasting keepsake.

Over many years the pages of this periodical have marked changes in horticultural fashion as well as the global march of plant exploration. For instance, the mastery of greenhouse culture gave the editors increasingly abundant examples of tropical plants. Exciting finds from all over the earth, especially the Americas and southern Africa, added plants ever more exotic to its pages.

Of course, the original works of art are the stars of the show. They are not

large: All could perhaps be classified as miniatures, being either the size of the pages for which they were drawn or only slightly larger. But size does not limit either their inspiration or artistic realization. These are seldom seen masterpieces which should be encountered as they were originally created.

Our dual exhibit is made possible by operating funds received by the Gardens from the metropolitan Scientific and Cultural Facilities District.

It opens in John C. Mitchell II Hall on Saturday, January 13, and continues through Sunday, February 4. Hours will be 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. There will be no charge for members.

Dear Blossoms of Light Sponsors and Volunteers,

Reflecting on Blossoms of Light for 1989, it is evident that it was the dedication and hard work of each one of you that made this event such a success. I give my sincerest thank you:

—To Proctor-Silex for sponsoring this month-long activity the past two years. Without your support Blossoms of Light could not have happened.

—To Celestial Seasonings for sponsoring the Teddy Bear Teas for the third consecutive year. These teas are one of the biggest attractions of the month.

—To Bank Western for doing our printing again.

—To Evergreen Specialty Co. and Angle Tree Co. for your advice and participation in our expanded lighting displays.

—To Denver Garden Railway Society, Mizell Trains, Inc., and United Floral Industry of Colorado for the exciting presentations in the lobby court and John C. Mitchell II Hall.

—To Aardvarks to Zebras for Teddy Bear Tea favors.

—To all the volunteers: Marty Nemecek and Mary Ellen Le Sage for organizing and handling the tea reservations, Nancy Taplin and Bea Taplin for the success of the Quilt Show and Sale, Deane Hall for printing our signs, Marion Woods for the centerpieces, Ivy Fails for fielding all the phone calls from interested patrons, and all the men and women who hosted throughout the month.

Chairing an event like this can be overwhelming, but the cooperation and support of sponsors and volunteers like you not only make the job easier but a pleasure.

Sincerely,
Patty Barnard
Chairman, Blossoms of Light, 1989



Old-Fashioned Flowers: Pelargoniums

"The wise man does not discard the past, he hoards it; for, philosophically, man is his past and in so far as he abandons it, forgets it, or is merely ignorant of it, he abandons himself and is a lesser being in consequence."

Derek Clifford, 1958

Lest we forget our horticultural past, floral displays throughout the Gardens this year will rely on the beauty and charm of old-fashioned flowers. The *Green Thumb News* will pay homage to these enduring beauties this year with a few informative notes.

Because their popularity seemingly has remained unabated it may be difficult to think of geraniums as old-fashioned, but pelargoniums (as they're properly called) have had their fashion peak, just as have other flowers. It was during the 1820s and 30s that the pelargonium craze reached its height in Europe, just over a hundred years after the introduction of *Pelargonium zonale* to Holland. This species from the Cape Colony (South Africa) is the primary ancestor of our garden bedding annual *Pelargonium hortorum*. A perennial in warmer climates, it bequeathed to many modern varieties the zones of color in their leaves.

Pelargoniums are mostly native to semi-arid lands of the Southern Hemisphere, most of them to Africa and to islands nearby. Some are succulents with swollen stems or water-storing roots. Their close relatives in the true genus *Geranium* are temperate zone plants. Nine species are native to Colorado. Another garden member in the family, *Erodium*, has one species native to the state. Alluding to the shapes of their seed cases, the three genera are commonly called storks-bills, cranesbills and heronsbills.

The introductory quotation above is from Derek Clifford's book *Pelargoniums*. In it he further observes, "Those who grow only the latest, who pursue *le dernier cri*, are like the froth on a wave—very visible but without weight or substance . . . Beauty has many aspects; it has no date."

This is certainly true of the ageless pelargoniums. You'll also see it in the other old-fashioned flowers around the Gardens this summer.

Did You Know?

Americans go through 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour, only a small percentage of which are now recycled.

Pelargonium
glaucum by
Sydenham
Edwards

Scott Paper Company and Rain Forests

Scott Paper Company hopes to replace 500,000 acres of Indonesian rain forests with a eucalyptus plantation, a pulp mill and a paper factory. A number of international conservation groups are concerned about both the ecological and social effects of the undertaking. According to Scott, plans will proceed only when a two- to three-year study, which includes a 130-acre trial plantation, satisfies the environmentalists' concerns and Scott's search for the best crop. If plans proceed, the enterprise will create thousands of jobs and substantial revenue in the province of Irian Jaya.

However several aspects need resolution: How will Scott Paper acquire land for the project, land inhabited for thousands of years by native people; how will erosion be stopped in such monoculture tree stands; will the water-loving eucalyptus lower the water table threatening local water supplies; what will happen to local wildlife (almost no animals live in the eucalyptus plantations that replaced rain forests in Madagascar); and will harmful herbicides be used to clear unwanted vegetation?

You may add your voice to those of concerned conservation groups by writing to Scott and urging them to carefully weigh the social and environmental concerns of the Indonesian people who will be affected by the plantations. Write to Philip E. Lippencott, Chief Executive Officer, Scott Paper Company, 1 Scott Plaza, Philadelphia, PA 19113.

United Floral Industry Spring Show

United Floral Industry of Colorado, an organization of professional florists, will hold its spring show on Saturday and Sunday, February 24 and 25, at the Regency Hotel at I-25 and West 38th Avenue.

Among its several community activities this group has for the past few years volunteered its members, its flowers and greens and its creativity to help turn the Gardens' lobby court into a winter holiday wonderland. As a member of Denver Botanic Gardens you'll surely want to see the exhibits at this spring show.

For more information, call U.F.I. at 421-9982.



Down the Garden Paths in January

Even January's wintry grip cannot wring the beauty from Shofu-En, the Garden of Pine Wind. In this month of few blossoms its serenity and grace invite you down the Gardens' paths for a contemplative visit.

Dedicated in June of 1979 this Japanese garden seems ageless. In all seasons the stone lanterns sit solidly on the earth, but they seem less rooted when the ground is frozen. How long ago was the past of which their cold curves speak?

The lanterns are a gift of the people of Denver's sister city, Takayama. The teahouse and gates were built in Japan, disassembled, then reassembled at the Gardens by Japanese craftsmen brought to Denver for that purpose. The 300 tons of stone were selected and positioned among the pines and waterways to give us a feeling of unity with nature.

Perhaps this is the reason that Shofu-En lures us, even in January, when (to use a poem by Naito Joso)

*"Fields and mountains
Have all been taken by the
snow.
Nothing is left."*

Grow Your Produce at the Gardens

Fresh vegetables for your summer salads can be harvested from your own city garden. Don't worry if you don't have the space at home, because Denver Botanic Gardens does! Plan now to become involved in the Community Gardening Program. It provides space to garden, educational opportunities and materials to start growing your own fresh produce.

Each plot is 150 square feet, and staff is available to provide assistance and answer questions. You will enjoy evening socials and you will make new friends while sharing recipes and learning gardening techniques.

A fee of \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members includes all the basic materials you'll need for your garden: fertilizer, water, educational handouts and seeds. Those of you who had plots in our Community Gardening Program last year must send in your registration forms by January 28. New members of the 1990 Community Gardening Program will participate in an orientation and will be invited to attend a workshop. New participants need to apply as soon as possible.

Whether you are a novice or an experienced gardener, you may obtain an application for this program from the receptionist at the Denver Botanic Gardens House, 909 York Street. Call 331-4000, Ext. 20, for more information. Space is limited, so plan to register early!



Snow-covered lantern by teahouse in Japanese garden, Shofu-En.

Travel With Us!

Located in southern Georgia, 75 miles south of Atlanta, is a garden of magic and exquisite beauty. A trip being planned by Denver Botanic Gardens will lead members to this land of springtime charm and to Callaway Gardens.

Other gems of the southeast will be visited, but surely the inspiration for this trip must have sprung forth from the pages of James P. Valentine's book, *Callaway Gardens—The Unending Season*. This book, on reserve in the Helen Fowler Library, is beautifully illustrated with a brief introduction by Celestine Sibley. Mr. Valentine's photos show the dream that has come true, the dream of an award-winning horticultural center and a new Day Butterfly Center, which is home to thousands of butterflies.

In the butterfly garden, trees are used as canopies, screens and focal points. Herbaceous perennials, shrubs and annuals provide masses of color. The butterflies create a world

of ever-changing enchantment. But this effect of springtime magic is doubled by the rhododendron and azalea blooms appearing outside and all over the landscape—at their peak during this tour.

In addition to Callaway Gardens, you will visit other spectacular gardens, including Atlanta Botanic Gardens and Athens State Gardens. Planned for April 1990, at the peak of spring blooms, but just prior to the peak of the tourist season, this trip will take your breath away.

Beth Callaway, of Callaway Gardens, is assisting our travel task force with her expertise and knowledge of the southern gardens. More information on this tour, which will be five to seven colorful days long, can be obtained by calling Andrew Pierce, Acting Director of DBG, at 331-4000, or Barbara Baldwin, chairman of the travel task force, at 778-7292.

We suggest perusing the book in the library and calling Mr. Pierce immediately to reserve your spot on this tour.



Winter
1989
Denver Botanic Gardens

CLASSES



An Aquatic Pond of Dreams: Ours and Yours

(three sessions)

Thursdays, January 18,
February 15,
March 15

7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Classroom C

The focus of this class will be on the history of water gardening at the Gardens while providing some insight into your present and future aquatic gardens. Denver Botanic Gardens has encouraged a garden revolution that has spread across the country. On three separate evenings this winter eight years of "water gardening madness" will be relived.

Session I: A Pond of Dreams Thursday, January 18

The dream has included tropical and hardy water lilies, bog plants, and the elegant Victoria water lily. Some vivid highlights of the development of water gardening at the Gardens will cover the formation of the Colorado Water Garden Society, the

International Water Lily Symposium of 1987 and the 1989 display on the 16th Street Mall. Additionally, you'll learn about some conservation measures that are being attempted with this collection.

Session II: The Victoria Water Lily Thursday, February 15

With leaves five feet in diameter and massive pineapple-scented blooms, the giant water-platter of the Amazon is one of the wonders of the plant world. It can be grown in Denver. It awed visitors of 16th Street Mall last summer. Annually on display at the Gardens, it is frequently the center of attention. Learn how to grow this exciting plant.

Session III: The Barrel Garden— Your First Water Garden Thursday, March 15

A rustic oak barrel is an excellent choice for your first water garden. A water lily, an emergent (bog plant) or two, an oxygenating plant and

even a carnivorous plant can be combined to create an intriguing miniature water garden. Children, as well as adults, will enjoy this fun garden. Handouts will be provided as well as information about proper selection and care of plants.

Instructor: Joseph V. Tomocik is a gardener/Florist at DBG and has been responsible for maintaining DBG water gardens since 1982. He has lectured at DBG, Longwood Gardens, and Missouri Botanical Gardens.

Fee: \$12 members/\$14 non-members

Room With A Garden— The Living Collection

(four sessions)

Tuesdays, January 16, 23, 30
February 6

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classroom A

Tall plants, small plants, fuzzy plants, shiny plants—interior gardens are full of these collectibles. Houseplants provide year-long gardens and year-long pleasures. They continue to give in spite of the fickleness of Colorado's weather.

In this four-week class, the instructor will address the techniques of growing houseplants. Novice and advanced growers will learn how to decorate with plants as well as how to locate happy homes for them and what the plants require (the basics).

Each session will be divided into two parts. Part One will cover specific areas of care, while Part Two will emphasize plant selections for various areas of your home. Topics will include watering, fertilizing, soils and pests as well as bright-light, full-sun, patio and hanging plants.

Learn basic but professional techniques.

Instructor: Louise Riverso is a professional interior plantscape designer. She operates Plantings, a garden and interior plant service company. She designed and installed a feature garden at the 1989 Colorado Garden and Home Show. Additionally, Ms. Riverso has taught beginning interior plant-scaping classes, previously at Academy of Floral Design and currently at the Design, Floral and Horticultural School in Denver.

Fee: \$32 members/\$35 non-members

Limit: 20

Interior Environments— Plant Selections For You

(six sessions)

Thursdays, January 18, 25

February 1, 8, 15, 22

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classroom A

Make every room a garden. A grace-

ful palm, a victorian fern, a southwestern cactus or a hanging rhipsalis will create a special atmosphere in the appropriate location. Yet, every location is not appropriate for every plant.

In this class emphasis will be placed on specific plants and family characteristics. Each plant will be discussed in detail with growing tips. Guidelines will be provided for future purchases. Learn how to locate a healthy, pest-free plant and how to select the right plant for the right site.

This comprehensive class will cover cacti, euphorbias, palms, ferns, dracaenas, begonias and it will help you develop your own "how-to" reference guide.

Instructor: Louise Rivero

Fee: \$48 members/\$53 non-members

Limit: 20

Botany for Beginners

(five sessions)

Saturdays, January 20, 27

February 3, 10, 17

9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Classroom A

This course will provide a brief but thorough introduction for those who wish to know more scientific information about plants: their structure, how they grow, basic physiology, how to give them what they need, and something about plant ecology. Previously offered in four sessions, it will now be extended to five so there will be more opportunity for questions and general discussion.

Living plant materials and microscope slides will be used, as well as an illustrated syllabus to serve as a visual and hands-on aids.

Instructor: Moras L. Shubert, Ph.D. is Professor Emeritus of Botany, at the University of Denver, with over 35 years of teaching experience.

Fee: \$40 members/\$44 non-members

Limit: 20

Centennial Celebration—Tree Walk at Fairmount Cemetery, Denver

(one session)

Sunday, January 28

1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Fairmount Cemetery is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, and Denver Botanic Gardens will offer several field trips there so you can enjoy the diversity of plants at this interesting location. The first field trip will emphasize winter identification of trees.

During the summers of 1890 and 1891 over 4,000 trees including sycamores, silver maples, Kentucky coffee



*This page:
Let instructor
Louise Rivero
help you learn
more about
house plants.*

*Facing page:
This lotus could
be part of a pond
of aquatic
dreams—don't
miss the class.*

trees, buckeyes, seven species of oak and several kinds of pines were all planted at Fairmount Cemetery. This is an opportunity to observe these as well as some more unusual trees such as scarlet oak and yellow buckeye. A walk through these mature, historic specimens will sharpen your identification skills.

Leader: Dr. William G. Gambill, Jr., Director Emeritus and Taxonomist at DBG, is a former botany and biology professor. His field trips and tree walks are very popular among our students.

Meet: at 1:00 p.m. at the Ivy Chapel to the east of the entrance of Fairmount Cemetery, located at East Alameda and Quebec Streets in Denver.

Fee: \$5.50 members/\$6 non-members (includes \$3 for Trail of Trees, a 64-page illustrated tree guide to Fairmount Cemetery.)

Limit: 20

Growing Orchids And Other Air Plants

(two sessions)

Saturdays, February 3, 10

9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Classroom B

Epiphytes, or "air plants," will thrive for you when you understand how they've adapted to their forest habitats. You'll explore the unusual conditions under which many kinds of tree-dwelling orchids, bromeliads, anthuriums and ferns live naturally. Then you will learn how to provide the proper care for them in your home or greenhouse.

This is a how-to-grow class. It will emphasize watering, fertilizing, potting and providing light and humidity. Living plants will be used for demonstration. Bring notebook, pen and heavy paper bag to each session to take home your new plant.

Instructor: Larry Latta is the botanist-horticulturist for public

information at the Gardens. He's enthusiastic about sharing insights from his years of collecting and growing orchids and other tropicals at home and at the Gardens.

Fee: \$29 members/\$32 non-members (includes \$13 for plants and materials)

Limit: 25

A Garden Quartet: A Foursome of Plants

(four sessions)

Tuesdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27

6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Morrison Center

You need not be a gardening virtuoso to orchestrate a pastoral garden. A simple harmony can result after attending our garden quartet. This series of classes covers ways to use perennials as the instrumental foundation of your garden.

So often we are asked, "What can I grow in the shade?" but the primary elements of the score—foliage, ground covers, annuals and bulbs—are less understood. The relationships of each of these plant categories and their design interactions can create a delightful melody for all four seasons. Those of you who have enjoyed "Perennial Pleasures" will appreciate this new opus.

Instructor: Andrew Pierce is Acting Director of DBG and an avid horticulturist. He is an accomplished grower of perennials and alpine plants.

Fee: \$32 members/\$35 non-members

Limit: 18

Low Water Plants for Beautiful Gardens

(six sessions)

**Tuesdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27,
March 6, 13**

7:15 to 9:30 p.m. Classroom C

Xeriscape is far more than yucca plants and gravel! A water-conserving landscape can have seasonal color and flowers and still be easily maintained. This course will present a wealth of attractive plants and how to use them effectively in the Colorado landscape.

View slides and take an in-depth look at approximately 150 trees, shrubs, vines and ground covers that are available in the Denver area. A discussion of their form, foliage, flower, fruit and function will enable you to select choice plants for your gardens. Attractive groupings and combinations will also be addressed.

Instructor: Alan Rollinger is a professional landscape designer specializing in residential planning. A graduate of CSU, he has completed

over 800 landscape projects in Colorado. He designed the garden that received the 1985 Xeriscape Award and other work has been featured on our Terrace and Garden tours and in publications such as *Sunset Magazine* and *Colorado Homes and Lifestyles*. Mr. Rollinger is a knowledgeable horticulturist who has lectured and taught for over 20 years.

Fee: \$48 members/\$53 non-members

Beginning Bonsai

(four sessions)

**Thursdays, February 8, 15, 22
March 1**

7:30 to 9:30 pm Classroom B

This popular introductory course will cover the history and cultural techniques of bonsai, the art of creating dwarf trees and shrubs. Instruction in styling, training, potting and care of bonsai will be included.

Each student will take a completed bonsai home and all materials will be provided.

Instructors: Keith Jepson, past president of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society, is an experienced bonsai hobbyist of 17 years. Harold Sasaki is a commercial bonsai grower with 18 years of experience. Both are lively, capable and popular teachers.

Fee: \$54 members/\$59 non-members (includes \$22 for materials)

Limit: 16

The Basics of Organic Gardening

(four sessions)

**Saturdays, February 10, 17, 24,
March 3**

9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Classroom C

The focus on this basic organic gardening course will be on feeding the soil to feed ourselves. The principles of composting, soil testing and amending humus content will be stressed. Early, mid-, and late-season crops, season extenders, crop rotation, site selection, appropriate varieties of fruits and vegetables for our climate, and seed sources will all be covered.

Learn watering techniques, companion planting, how to start your own transplants, and prevent and control pests and diseases safely. There will be some emphasis on urban gardening techniques such as intensive, wide-row double dug beds as well as lesser known varieties of easy-to-grow vegetables with high nutritive values.

Instructor: Judy Elliott is an enthusiastic teacher with 15 years of organic gardening experience. She is a master gardener who serves as Conservatory

Guide, Pre-school Guide and "Dr. Green," at DBG. She also operates her own city-wide plant doctor business.

Fee: \$32 members/\$36 non-members

How to Train Your Grapevine

(one session)

**Saturday, February 10 (February
17 in case of bad weather.)**

Noon to 2:00 p.m.

Herb Garden Grape Arbor

Can you train an old vine? How do you prune grapevines? What is a bull cane and can you prune your vines in their first year? In this hands-on workshop, students will learn the techniques of pruning their grapevines. They can, after receiving directions from the instructor, apply the techniques. Each student will have an opportunity to prune the vines in the DBG Herb Garden.

Participants should bring their (sharp) pruning shears, gloves and warm clothing. And yes, you can teach an old vine new tricks!

Instructor: Moras L. Shubert

Fee: \$16 members/\$18 non-members

Limit: 20

Basic Beekeeping

(three sessions)

Saturdays, February 10, 17, 24

9 a.m. to noon

**Polly Steele Nature Center at
Chatfield Arboretum**

This three-session course, held at Chatfield Arboretum, is designed to show you how to get started in beekeeping. Through a step-by-step approach with hands-on demonstrations, students will learn the entire procedure from set-up to honey harvest.

A discussion of interesting facts about honey plants, bee behavior and ecology will also be included.

Instructor: DBG staff member and teacher Carol Dawson has kept bees for over five years.

Directions to Chatfield Arboretum:

Take C-470 west to the Wadsworth exit. Turn left and go beneath the underpass 0.4 miles to Deer Creek Road. Turn right and the arboretum entrance is 0.4 miles on the left. Follow this road 0.5 miles and park at the lot at the Visitors' Center (restored schoolhouse). Follow the marked trail across the stream to the Polly Steele Nature Center. You may wish to wear boots if ground is snow covered or wet from snow melt.

Fee: \$36 members/\$39 non-members

Limit: 15

Wildflower Trilogy

(three sessions)

Wednesdays, February 21, 28 and March 7

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classroom B

Local gardeners have discovered the great variety of plants available from around the world as well as from our own Rocky Mountains. This instructor is one of the region's most knowledgeable and innovative gardeners providing especially creative ideas and designs for the home gardener, those that use plant material from around the world and from local sources.

**Wednesday, February 21
"The Mediterranean Garden"**

The high plains of Colorado seem far removed from Capri and the Greek isles. But the mountains surrounding the Mediterranean Sea harbor one of the richest floras of the temperate world, and plants from Mount Olympus, the Atlas Mountains and the Balkans have proved to be winter-hardy in Colorado and have tremendous endurance in our hot summers. Come examine an assortment of mints, rock roses, campanulas and other showy plants from the Mediterranean basin, and see how you might use them as ground covers for your borders and herb gardens or in an alpine garden or trough.

**Wednesday, February 28
"The Best of the West: Western Wildflowers in the Wild and in the Garden"**

This is a look at some of the showiest native plants and the habitats where they grow. What are the best penstemons, phloxes and buckwheats for the home garden? Rather than complain about all the darned yellow composites, see why the British refer to the Rockies as the "Daisy Chain." With an increasing concern for water conservation, native plants are a logical alternative to imitating Eastern landscapes.

**Wednesday, March 7
"The Classic Alpine Garden"**

This is a review of 50 of the basic rock garden plants: tried and true cultivars of the primrose, gentian, saxifrage and pink families that are the backbone of alpine gardens everywhere. How can these be combined artistically for a thoroughly satisfying effect at home? Although they adapt most easily to gardens at higher elevations, they can grow well in home landscapes in the Denver area if situ-

ated correctly in a properly constructed garden.

Instructor: Panayoti Kelaidis is curator of our award-winning Rock Alpine Garden as well as an enthusiastic teacher who enjoys sharing discoveries gleaned from his eight years at Denver Botanic Gardens.

Fee: \$24 members/\$26 non-members

Botanical Illustration Workshop: A Day with William Curtis

(one session)

**Tuesday, January 30
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Classroom B**

Spend a day among the works of English botanist and superb illustrator William Curtis. While taking a special tour of the exhibit "Flowers from the Royal Gardens of Kew" learn more about William Curtis and the wonderful age of elegance and reason he lived in. Learn about the process of engraving and hand coloring practiced at this time so you can take a new look at old



Hippeastrum x john sonii from "Flowers from the Royal Gardens of Kew" exhibit.

engravings you may have or admire.

Then enjoy a delicious box lunch from Le Petite Gourmet in the warm, tropical conservatory of the Gardens. Finally, adjourn to Classroom B to learn how to draw a flower in the manner of the master, William Curtis. Beginners will gain a new appreciation of botanical illustration by spending an afternoon drawing. Please bring pencils, an eraser and a set of colored pencils if you have them. Paper will be supplied.

Instructors: Rob Proctor and Angela Overy have been the devotees of 18th century prints and engravings for many years.

Fee: \$30 members/\$33 non-members (includes \$9.50 for lunch and drawing paper)

Draw a Diary of Colorado's Native Plants

(12 sessions)

**Third Thursday of Each Month in 1990, Beginning January 18
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Classroom B**

One day each month, to capture the essence of each season, you will make a botanical drawing of a group of Colorado native plants. Winter sessions will be held at Denver Botanic Gardens and summer classes will be held in outdoors in the foothills and mountains. You will pick specimens, where permitted, and create an accurate, life-size, full-color drawing of appropriate flowers, seeds, berries, roots, leaves and grasses.

You should make a commitment to attend each month in order to have the satisfaction of a complete set of calendar illustrations. Although beginners would enjoy this class, it appeals particularly to those who have had some drawing instruction and want to dig deeper into the details of drawing Colorado plant life.

Classes will be held the third Thursday each month, starting Thursday, January 18, at Denver Botanic Gardens in Classroom B (continuing February 15, March 15, April 19 and May 17, at Denver Botanic Gardens; June 21, July 19, August 16 and September 20 at outdoor locations; October 18, November 15 and December 13 back at the Gardens in Classroom B). Students should bring to each class drawing pencils, a set of colored pencils, eraser, watercolors if desired, and a sack lunch, thermos, etc.

Instructor: Angela Overy

Fee: \$246 members/\$270 non-members (includes \$6 for materials) *Volunteers who wish to use their hours toward registration on this class need only pay \$150.*

Limit: 20

Watercolor Painting

(five sessions)

Wednesdays, January 10, 17, 24, 31 and February 7

Section I: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Section II: 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Classroom B

Explore the sparkle and delicacy of watercolor painting while enjoying the natural setting of Denver Botanic Gardens. This course will cover the basic materials and techniques of watercolors with emphasis on freedom of personal expression.

Come prepared with supplies. You'll need: a one-inch flat brush, #10 round brush, watercolor paper, tissues, container for water, plastic palette and cake or tube watercolors.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky currently teaches art history, watercolor painting and oil painting at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, and he displays his work at Inkfish Art Gallery. He is a graduate of the University of Kharkov and the Art College of Kharkov, U.S.S.R. (Mr. Shoshensky will be instructing watercolors during Lynette Swanson-O'Kane's absence during the early part of 1990.)

Fee: \$60 members/\$66 non-members

Limit: 12

Wheat Weaving Workshop: Mordiford Love Token

(one session)

Saturday, February 3

1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Classroom B

Create a unique, heart-shaped wall hanging for your home or for that special someone. Students will learn the seven-straw plait for this design.

Attendance at a previous wheat weaving course is necessary. Please bring scissors, heavy light brown thread and a ruler to class.

Instructor: Maureen McGowan is a horticultural instructor and consult-

ant who has taught craft classes, including wheat weaving, at the Chicago Botanic Gardens and DBG.

Fees: \$12 members/\$14 non-members (includes \$4 for materials)

Limit: 12

Chair Caning

(six sessions)

Mondays, February 5, 12, 19, 26 March 5, 12

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Morrison Center

Learn an age-old craft. Replace that sagging or broken seat in your hard cane, pressed cane, rush or reed chair. With homework, you'll be able to complete at least one project during this course.

No previous experience is necessary. Materials will cost approximately \$10-\$20 and can be purchased at the first session. The instructor will contact you prior to class to discuss each project.

Instructor: Jill Goldberg-Miller is a self-proclaimed "cane addict" who learned the art from her mother. She has taught numerous courses and operates her own business "The Able Caner."

Fee: \$48 members/\$52 non-members (Materials are purchased separately)

Limit: 10

Artistic Garden Grids

(five sessions)

Mondays, February 12, 19, 26, March 5, 12

7:00 to 9:00 pm Classroom A

A new way of enjoying your art, including nature photographs, will be approached in this class. Students will use botanical drawings or favorite photos for enlargement and arrangement in grid drawings.

Demonstration in making the grid will be given followed by a brief talk on values of pencil colors and on pen-

cil techniques. You need to bring graphite pencils, 12" by 12" natural 100 percent cotton rag paper and a ruler to the first session and to the second session a photo or some art work as well as 20" by 30" natural fiber paper, pencils, erasers and a ruler. Students will be working with colored pencils by the fourth class.

Individual instruction and assistance will be provided in each session. All classes will stress the creative and artistic approach to the grid, composition and design.

Instructor: Peg Adamson has been teaching drawing, painting, media techniques, and landscape watercolor at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design since 1984. Her work has appeared in *Westword*, *Rocky Mountain News*, *The Denver Post* and she has exhibited locally and nationally including at Emmanuel Gallery, The Grant Street Arts Center and The Philip J. Steele Gallery in Denver.

Fee: \$40 members/\$44 non-members

Limit: 15

Mainly for Men: A Valentine's Eve Special

(one session)

Tuesday, February 13

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classroom B

Join a new Denver tradition. Make the special person in your life a wonderful nosegay of fresh flowers, including roses and ribbon, all arranged by **you** in a special holder, boxed and tied, ready for giving on Valentine's Day. All flowers and materials are provided, and careful instruction will be included so even the most inexperienced will have instant success! Join a host of other men for a repeat of last year's class, back by popular demand.

Instructors: Rob Proctor and Angela Overy demonstrate flower arranging throughout Colorado. Their informal style and commitment to the success of each participant make their classes perennially popular.

Fee: \$26 members/\$29 non-members

Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206

Fees for courses should be paid in advance by check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since the space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your registration will NOT be acknowledged. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your money is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

The enclosed check, in the amount of _____, is to cover the registration fees for the following classes:

Name and section of classes _____

Name _____

Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Member ID _____
(on top line of newsletter address label)

Address _____

City _____ ZIP code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Gardening: Selecting Unusual Vegetables

You have a greater interest in gardening than most people. You want to grow the more common plants better, and you're always looking for something less common to grow. This is especially true for vegetables.

You've also found that, no matter how good the selection is at your favorite plant place—even Denver Botanic Gardens' own Plant and Used Book Sale—it can't possibly offer every variety you're looking for. So you send away for catalogs and you supplement



your local buying with offerings from afar.

If you not only shop for unusual plants and seeds but for out-of-the-ordinary catalogs, here are some companies to add to your collection of sources. No guarantees—this list contains some companies with which I've had personal experience, some that have been suggested by other adventurous gardeners and some that merely caught my attention because of their offerings. (Most catalogs these days come at a price; when known, this is included in parentheses.)

Seeds Blum, Idaho City Stage, Boise, Idaho 83706. Growing heirloom varieties could be an exciting side hobby for your gardening pursuit. The annual introduction of "new and improved" hybrids is meeting a healthy countertrend, a fascination for old-fashioned vegetables and flowers. You may want to join it.

Seeds Blum specializes in seldom-grown antique varieties. Its black-and-white catalog of about 90 pages doesn't glow with shiny paper and mouthwatering photographs, but it radiates enthusiasm for gardening and for preserving a valuable part of our horticultural past (and future?). It is illustrated with clever drawings and is full of unusual offerings, interesting recipes and gardening wisdom. Its gentle philosophizing adds a dash of charm (\$3).

Nichols Garden Nursery, 1190 North Pacific Highway, Albany, Oregon 97321. Another family business, this one is older and its catalog is more traditional in approach. Few drawings grace its pages, but its dense text offers a huge variety of herb and rare (and not-so-rare) vegetable and flower seeds, many of which are popular in Europe or the Orient.

Nichols was responsible for introducing elephant garlic to American gardens. For that alone the company



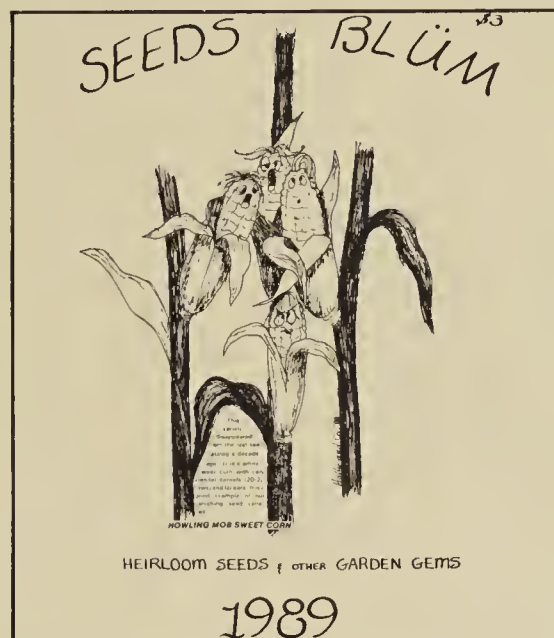
deserves our praise, but you'll also find yourself ordering from it regularly because of its wide selection of seeds and its generous shipping and handling policy.

Native Seeds/SEARCH, 3950 West New York Drive, Tucson, Arizona 85745. For six years this organization has been searching out food, fiber and dye plant varieties grown by Native Americans in the mostly arid Southwest and in northern Mexico. Consequently, you'll find in its listing (cheaply and proudly published by office copier) an amazing diversity of beans, squashes and corns. You will **not** find commercially available types of anything because this is not a commercial company but a non-profit conservation organization with a strong anthropological concern for

the protection of Native American cultures as well as plant genes.

Its catalog offers a smattering of recipes from several sources, just enough information on the various tribes of the region to whet your appetite for some of the books listed and some crucial climatic and horticultural data for its geographical area of interest. (\$1—and, **please**, a donation to support this valuable effort. Also consider an annual support membership of \$10.)

Vermont Bean Seed Company, Gar-



den Lane, Fair Haven, Vermont 05743. Although its catalog lists other kinds of vegetables, herbs and ornamentals (most of them commonly available), you'll send to this company for its offering of beans—yellow snap, French snap, French shell, green bush, pole, fava and dry. It's a mouth-watering list.

Tomato Growers Supply Company, P.O. Box 2237, Fort Myers, Florida 33902. From heirloom varieties to modern hybrids, this company lists 167 varieties of—what else—tomatoes. It's an amazing, informative little catalog.

Shepherd's Garden Seeds, 30 Irene Street, Torrington, Connecticut 06790. The European connection is stressed by this company. Modern Italian, French and Dutch vegetable varieties—bred for flavor rather than durability—are its specialty.

Although the catalogs listed here offer hundreds of off-beat vegetable varieties, your adventurous gardening spirit may still remain unsatisfied. In that case you must visit the Helen Fowler Library at the Gardens. There you'll find several hundred current catalogs listing thousands of different plants and seeds. And you'll find the answer to your most asked question, "Where can I find . . .?"

Larry Latta is the botanist-horticulturist for public information at DBG.

(This discussion will continue in the February newsletter with a look at noteworthy sources of ornamental plants.)

C JAN

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies

A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a **general** indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switchboard during business hours at 331-4000.

African Violet Society, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society**, 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society**, 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club**, 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society**, 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers**, 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society**, 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International**, 4th Fri.; **Iris Society**, spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club**, 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society**, 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society**, 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society**, 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club**, 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society**, 2nd Sun. of 5 months.

C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 Happy New Year—DBG is closed	2	3	4	5	6
	7 *First meeting of a class with more than one session	8	9	10 Watercolor Painting*	11	12	13 Bouquet of Garden Books
	14 January 13 - February 4 "Flowers from the Royal Gardens of Kew"	15	16 Room with a Garden—The Living Collection*	17	18 Interior Environments,* Draw a Diary,* Pond of Dreams*	19	20 Botany for Beginners*
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28 Tree Walk at Fairmont Cemetery	29	30 Botanical Illustration Workshop: A Day with William Curtis	31			

Coming Next Month

February 3
Growing Orchids And Other Air Plants,* Wheat Weaving Workshop

February 5
Chair Caning*

February 6
A Garden Quartet*

February 10
How to Train Your Grapevine, Basic Beekeeping* at Chatfield

February 12
Artistic Garden Grids*

February 13
Mainly for Men: A Valentine Eve Special

February 21
Wildflower Trilogy*

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
303-331-4000

Address correction requested

TIME VALUE

January 1990



Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 205
Denver, CO

Dreaming of a Tropical Tour?

It's the middle of winter. You've been staring out at the dirty snow, your eyes glazed with visions of the miracles you and the heat of summer will work on your yard this year. But those dreams won't be realized for months; even the first little blossoms of *Iris histrioides* and *Crocus chrysanthus* haven't peeked out to affirm the coming seasons of brighter colors.

It's time for a getaway to the tropics. Denver Botanic Gardens has arranged one for you.

Your itinerary will thread around the globe, from the dry Sonoran uplands to the flanks of the Andes, from Pacific isle to Pacific isle and onward to a lowland Burmese jungle. You'll hopscotch across the Indian Ocean to Africa as you sample the warm, green lands of the lower hemisphere. Then, with your winter spirits refreshed and your gardening resolve renewed, you will make your way back home, prepared to await the thawing of the North.

A special, for-members-only feature of this globe-circling tour is its price: *It's absolutely free*, a benefit of your membership that you may be overlooking. How about putting it to your advantage this February? There's no better time.

To embark you need only step through the double doors at the east entrance to Boettcher Memorial Conservatory. You will pass immediately into the warmth and humidity of the tropics and into the amazingly verdant floral wealth of half a hundred countries.

Reasonable price for members will lure you around the world this February

To the left of the conservatory entrance, near what could be a still pool deep within a Philippine island, grow the mottled, burnt umber and olive stems and elephant-ear leaves of *Alocassia zebrina*. Nothing evokes the feeling of the tropics like the often oversize foliage of the arum family; this plant and others of its genus nearby will plunge you dramatically into a jungle frame of mind. Farther up the pathway several heliconias, close relatives of the bananas will reinforce this sensation. Notice the Columbian lowland *Heliconia metalica* and the Pacific island *H. indica*. Again you see foliage darker and richer than the temperate zone green of which we've become accustomed. The brownish green of their leaf blades are beautifully striped and blended with wine, red and pink.
continued on page 3

Green Thumb



NEWS

Denver Botanic Gardens February 1990 Number 90-2



Inside:

*Colorado
Garden and
Home Show*
page 2

*Old-fashioned
Flowers* page 3

*1990 Plant
and Used
Book Sale*
page 4

*Chatfield
Activities*
page 6

*Look for tropical
warmth this
February in our
conservatory.*

The education department of Denver Botanic Gardens is accepting applications and class proposals from qualified instructors. Plant identification field trip leaders and teachers for children's classes are currently being sought for late spring and summer. Instructors are hired on a contractual basis; these are paid positions. If you are interested please call Carol Knepp at 331-4000, Ext. 20. Potential instructors can also mail in class proposals, along with their resumes, to Ms. Knepp at Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York Street, Denver, CO 80206.

1990 Colorado Garden and Home Show

You'll want to "Swing into Spring" at the 31st annual Colorado Garden and Home Show, Friday, February 2, to Sunday, February 11, in Denver's Currigan Exhibition Hall, 1324 Champa Street.

The hall will be transformed into a spectacular floral wonderland with more than 16,000 flowering plants in 23 newly designed gardens. Special features will include hourly entertainment, a turn-of-the-century ice cream parlor and the ever-popular dog show.

The 1990 show hours are:

February 2	6 to 9 p.m.
February 3	12 to 9 p.m.
February 4	12 to 6 p.m.
February 5 to 7	4 to 9 p.m.
February 8 to 10	12 to 9 p.m.
February 11	12 to 6 p.m.

Admission is \$4.50 for adults; \$3.50 for senior citizens; and \$2 for children ages 6 to 12. Discount tickets are available at grocery stores.

This spring spectacular is produced by Colorado Garden Show, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to helping the green industry.

Tributes

In memory of Eleanor Casebolt
Claud & Vivienne Pendleton

In memory of D. L. Christenson
Mary Jo Christenson

In memory of Marie DeGrush
Dorothy S. Hutchinson

In memory of Caroline Eyler
Floyd & Beth Bennett
Margie & Ken Blum
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Nicoulin

In memory of Jeff E. Halladay
Bureau of Land Management
Shirley R. Finn
John & Joanne Fleck
Gerald E. Halladay
E. Elton & Isabel Jenkins
Security Assistance Acctg. Center,
Lowry AFB
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Wieleba

In memory of Mrs. Charles (Helen) Gordon
Dr. & Mrs. George Ogura
Esther Rettberg
Muriel B. Sack
Scio Art & Literature Club
Daniel & Betty Smith



CSU Students are Landscape Architecture Winners

Colorado State University students of landscape architecture received top prizes in the 14th annual Landscape Architecture Student Competition held in July 1989. The competition, sponsored annually by the American Society of Landscape Architects and the National Stone Association, encourages students to develop and exchange ideas on quarry reclamation and beautification. First place went to Kevin Dunnett, Jane Kopperl and John Paliga of Colorado State University.

The winning entry proposed an after-use for a sand and gravel pit owned by Western Mobile, Inc., near Fort Collins, Colorado. Western Mobile is planning to give this pit to the Northern Colorado Environmental Learning Center. The after-use idea presented by the CSU students was to create ponds for waterfowl habitats.

In memory of John G. Griffin, M.D.

Dr. & Mrs. Richard B. Garnand

In memory of Mrs. Edith M. Jensen
Herbert & Beatrice Jane Jones

In memory of Linelda "Pat" Longwell
Barbara & Al Richardson

In memory of Roberta McDougal
Mr. & Mrs. David Lawrence
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Marchand

In memory of Dorothy McGlone
Forrest McGlone

In memory of Florence Miller
Stuart & Nancy Sharpe

In memory of Mrs. Davis (Ellen) Moore
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Marchand

In memory of Mrs. J. Churchill Owen (Restricted to the Alice Mann Owen Intern Fund)

Mr. & Mrs. Caleb Gates, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Marchand
Elizabeth Owen

In memory of Kim Sterne
Darcy Chase Sterne

In memory of Wanda Wortman
Herbert & Beatrice Jane Jones

Curtis Exhibit Ends February 4

If you love beautiful things—old books, fine paintings, plants, flowers—and if you haven't visited the Gardens to see the original watercolor drawings and engravings on display in John C. Mitchell II Hall, you have only a few days left. "Flowers from the Royal Gardens of Kew" runs through Sunday, February 4.

This exhibit has paintings assembled by Kew Gardens from two centuries of illustrations made for *Botanical Magazine*, as well as issues of the magazine from the collections of the Helen Fowler Library. It's a historical show of beautiful things.

As a member you need pay no admission fee to either the Gardens or the exhibit.

Green Thumb News Number 90-2 February 1990

Published monthly by the Denver Botanic Gardens education department, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Patricia A. Pachuta and Carolyn Knepp. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in the Botanic Gardens. For membership information, please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000.

Deadlines for this newsletter are: Major news stories, feature material (including photographs or artwork), and short notes are all due not later than January 19 for March, February 20 for April and March 20 for May.

Late material cannot be used. Stories must be typed, double-spaced, preferably on copy paper provided by the editors. Please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20, for details.



Accredited by the
American Association
of Museums

Become one of
our qualified
teachers.

continued from page 1

Your tropical journey would seem incomplete with no palm trees to wave you on your way, so you're greeted to a fern-clad, rain-soaked hillside in Burma by a Chinese windmill palm, *Trachycarpus fortunei*. You may won-

You will pass immediately into the warmth and humidity of the tropics . . .

der—warily—what exotic little creatures lie hidden in the thick cloak of fiber that covers the bases of its leafstalks. Then, as you pass by a spindle palm, *Hyophorbe verschaffelti*, its feathery leaves bring you the salty Indian Ocean breezes rustling

across its native Mascarene Island homeland.

You will visit Africa through dozens of plants. Many are so internationally used in tropical landscaping you may not recognize in which tropical country you've arrived if you judge only by the plants that line the route into town from the airport. *Agapanthus africanus*, the blue lily of the Nile; hybrid abutilons; and *Plumbago auriculata* (synonym: *P. capensis*) have been spread far beyond their original homes.

Of course, the itinerary put forth here only hints of the lands you can visit on your round-the-world tour among the 700 species housed in the conservatory.

Just don't forget to come back. Your garden and houseplants up north are waiting, and they'll soon need your attention.

Old-fashioned Flowers: Poppies

With petals of tissue—or wrinkled satin—or crushed silk—the delicate flowers of poppies have challenged the descriptive powers of fond gardeners for centuries. Their crinkled fragility is such that, especially when illuminated from behind in bright sunlight, they inspire even the least poetic among us to search for words adequate to the task of complimenting their beauty.

With their cut, ragged or threadlike foliage and their fuzzy buds nodding from thin, strong stems poppies play most sprightly in the informality of meadows, rock gardens or loosely organized perennial borders. This laxness made them popular flowers in European and American gardens before the Victorian era ushered in geometric beds of garish bedding annuals. The past half century has seen poppies re-emerge as garden favorites. Here at the Gardens nothing attracts as many photographers and painters as the group of Iceland poppies in the main perennial border south of the lobby entrance.

Papaver nudicaule (Iceland poppy), *P. rhoeas* (Shirley poppy) and *P. glauca* (the tulip poppy) are the most widely available annual poppies. Touchy about transplanting, they're best grown from seed sown in August or September but will also bloom the first year from seed sown in late winter or very early spring. Oriental poppies, *P. oriental*, can be purchased as plants and are durable, early bloomers in the perennial garden. All types prefer full sun and fast-draining soil.

As beautiful as they are in photographs or paintings, poppies must be grown and seen to be properly appreciated. For, as Celia Thaxter wrote in 1894, "The fresh splendor of this flower no tongue nor pen nor brush of mortal man can fitly represent." They may be old-fashioned, but they remain as admired as they were in her day.

Free Day at the Gardens

Residents of Colorado will be treated to free admission at the Gardens on February 18. The Sunday free day is the first of seven scheduled this year.

Did You Know

The average vehicle emits one pound of deadly carbon monoxide for every 17 miles driven?



A Request From Your Plant and Used Book Sale Chairman

It seems as though I've only just managed to spread the boughs from the Christmas tree over the crowns of my perennials, and it's time to announce plans for "The Flowering of Denver," the 40th Denver Botanic Gardens Plant and Used Book Sale. The event is May 11 and 12, the Friday and Saturday preceding Mother's Day. The pre-sale party is on the evening of the 10th.

As usual our division chairmen have some pleasant surprises. For example, this year a rare book auction will be added to the festivities of the pre-sale party. All the divisions will return to offer the best in annuals, perennials, herbs, rock alpine plants, water plants, roses, vegetables, children's plants, patio plants and baskets, trees and shrubs, berries, houseplants, cacti, bonsais, home donations and books. Also, we will once again feature fine tools, furniture, statuary and garden accessories.

If you would like to participate in

"The Flowering of Denver" as a NEW volunteer, please fill out the form below and mail it to me. I will make sure you are invited to the volunteer fair in April. No experience is necessary—I started out several years ago as an assistant cashier. We are always happy to hear from those of you with special skills such as clerking, carpentry and music, as well as horticulture. We can always use second-hand adding machines as well.

If you have served for a year or more and would like to be an assistant division chairman, please fill out the form, too. The sale is run entirely by volunteers, so you will be a part of a team that serves the Gardens and the entire metropolitan area. The greatest pleasure of my job is to work with the many wonderful people who give of their time so generously.

Won't you join me?

(Requested by Rob Proctor, 1990 Plant and Used Book Sale Chairman)

Volunteer for the Plant and Used Book Sale.



Emerson R. Birchfield: The Old-fashioned Garden

Sometimes in our pursuit of no-fuss, low-maintenance gardens we forget all about why we garden in the first place. For most of us it is the love of flowers and the satisfaction of eating homegrown vegetables.

Many of us treasure childhood memories from magical gardens of another era, when the hollyhocks grew taller and dandelions were made into chains. Even the younger set, just beginning their own gardens, can imagine the old-fashioned cottage garden of days past, and decide to capture its charm today. Creeping junipers make a superlative ground cover—if that's what you're after—but I doubt they are the stuff from which the memories of today's children will be made.

The volunteers who run "The Flowering of Denver," the Plant and Used Book Sale, have decided to feature many of the favorite old-time plants. Fashion sometimes passes by perfectly good plants, and it takes the gardening public's demand to bring them back. A good example is lamb's ears, *Stachys byzantina*, which nearly vanished from cultivation earlier this century. It survived tucked away in cottage gardens where fashion held no sway. Lamb's ears has woolly gray leaves that children (and many adults) love to pet, and stems of tiny pink flowers that are perfect for adding a little Old World charm to a bouquet. And yes, it's even a trouble-free ground cover.

When we think of the flowers of our grandmother's house, the annuals stand out. Sheila Stephens and Joedy Arnold head that division this year and promise the best of the past: cockscomb, lavatera and balsam from colonial days; strawflowers and statice for drying; and stock and flowering tobacco for fragrance. The Victorians fancied fuchsias (which they called ladies eardrops), castor beans and *Brachycome iberidifolia*, the pur-

1990 "Flowering of Denver" Plant and Used Book Sale Volunteer Signup

Yes _____, I would like to help as a NEW volunteer at "The Flowering of Denver" on May 10, 11 or 12,
or _____ I would like to apply to be an Assistant Division Chairman.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Phone: Evening _____ Daytime _____

Special Skills _____

Mail to: Denver Botanic Gardens
Plant Sale
909 York Street
Denver, CO 80206

Birchfield

continued from page 4

ple Swan River daisies. They were simply mad about scented geraniums (for good reason, I might add). These are featured in Barbara Moore's herb division. Ed Connors keeps the Victorian tradition alive and brings in many varieties of geraniums with such intriguing fragrances as lemon, rose, apple and orange.

Other favorite herbs that have been grown for centuries and are still pretty additions to any garden are catnip, lavender and rosemary. These will take care of your cat, your linen closet and the stew, in that order. But there are literally hundreds more to try. The pretty silver-leaved *Santolina chamaecyparissus*, known as lavender cotton, was used by the French to protect clothing from moths. The herb of grace, *Ruta graveolens*, certainly is a graceful plant for the garden. The finely-cut foliage is almost blue and is topped by clusters of tiny golden flowers. I marvel each year at the selections from the herb division. They are unequaled in the state. Even those with little culinary skill, such as myself, could plant a lovely garden just from the plants in this division alone.

Be sure to visit the summer bulbs division, though, because chairman Janet Sickafuse has wonderful bulbs that work magic in the summer border. A friend of mine decided last year, on my advice, that lilies would add the perfect touch to her perennial beds. She planted 37 bulbs, both Orientals and Asiatic hybrids, from the summer bulbs division. To her delight (and my relief) all bloomed beautifully.

Lilies sometimes take a year to settle in, especially in a hot year. If your luck was not as good as my friend's, be patient and your lilies planted last spring should bloom well this year (unless you planted them in poorly drained soil and watered them over-zealously, in which case you can kiss them goodbye).

Janet has added many new varieties, including trumpet lilies. Imagine an old-fashioned border of roses, hollyhocks, larkspurs and veronicas with bold clumps of trumpet lilies wafting sweet perfume over the entire garden. Extend the plantings in your mind to include drifts of lamb's ears in the foreground, blue-green rue behind and groups of bright pink lavateras and papery strawflowers. It has been said that heaven is nearest in a garden. In this case, who could argue?

(Emerson R. Birchfield is our special correspondent for "The Flowering of Denver." Old-fashioned flowers, along with some new ones, surround his Victorian home. When asked if he had ever met Queen Victoria, he was not amused.)



Brown Cloud Blues

Clean Air Colorado is a voluntary program to reduce all forms of air pollution in Colorado, including those that affect health, visibility, global warming, ozone depletion and rain acidity. Replacing the Better Air Campaign, this year-round Colorado Department of Health program will target the brown cloud during the high pollution season this winter.

On high pollution days metropolitan Denver residents are strongly urged to limit their driving to essential trips only, and to walk, jog, ski, bicycle, skateboard, rollerskate, ride buses or car pool and to be part of the solution, not the problem, whenever possible.

During this winter season state law mandates the use of oxygenated fuels along the Front Range until February 28. Polluting diesel vehicles or any that emit excessive smoke can be reported by calling 744-2442 or 364-4135. Those include cars, trucks and buses. Report the license number of the offending vehicle when you call.

Vickers gas stations and RTD are endeavoring to be part of the solution. When you fill up at Vickers be sure to pick up your two free RTD ride passes



for the next high pollution day. For free car pool matching call 458-POOL. For more information on Clean Air Colorado call 331-8559.

From that most prolific writer Anon comes:

"All things are bound together. All things connect. What happens to the Earth happens to the children of the Earth. Man has not woven the web of life. He is but one thread. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself."

Winners of the Jane Silverstein Ries Award

The Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (CCASLA) has awarded its annual Jane Silverstein Ries Award to Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, Xeriscape Colorado, Dr. James Feucht and the University of Denver Recycling Committee, according to Guenther Vogt, CCASLA President. This award is presented each year to non-landscape architects who have demonstrated a stewardship of land values in the Rocky Mountain region. It was given to the recipients at the annual dinner on December 7.

The award was established in 1984 by the CCASLA to encourage, promote and recognize individual and organizational efforts in preserving, maintaining and enhancing Colorado's public lands.

Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado is a non-profit, non-political organization established in 1984 to instill in Coloradans a sense of personal responsibility for their public lands, thereby creating an active and beneficial stewardship of the state's land resources.

Because of the number of outstanding nominees, CCASLA made two merit awards and issued one letter of commendation. Receiving merit awards were Xeriscape Colorado, a local non-profit educational organization working to promote landscape water conservation, and Dr. James Feucht of the Colorado State University Extension Service for his continuing contributions in disseminating information about conservation and the unique features of Colorado's landscape. The fledgling Denver University Recycling Committee received a letter of commendation for its efforts to encourage recycling and for collecting recyclable materials.

As a chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, CCASLA is composed of professional landscape architects concerned with issues affecting the environment and the protection of the health, safety and welfare of people through professional design and construction of landscaping.

6 News From The Arboretum: Wild Birds

Many Chatfield Arboretum visitors observe the variety of wild birds there and ask how they can attract birds to their own yards, courtyards or windowsills. The most important things to remember in attracting birds are cover, food and water.

Cover is a place that is close to your feeder where the birds can sit or fly to (five to 20 feet away). Cover can consist of bushes, trees or some type of lattice that will offer protection from neighborhood cats or sharp-shinned hawks who look for small birds at city and suburban feeders. Some bushes provide both food and protection. For example, elderberry, bush honeysuckle, junipers, red-osier dogwood, pyracantha, chokecherry and Oregon grape holly provide fruits at some time during the year. Lilacs and snowball bushes provide abundant insects under their leaves for migrating warblers to eat. Trees that provide both food and protection are Russian olives, Hopa crabapple, Montemorency cherry, seed-bearing ashes, maples, pines and spruces. Spruces and junipers provide excellent cover, roosting and nesting spots for birds. A small dead tree or a recycled Christmas tree can be tied or secured near a feeder for protection. A lattice can be used alone or with a vine such as Virginia creeper, clematis or grape growing on it. Strings or cords, tied up in a pattern, provide protection and a place to perch.

Food for birds can be a challenge. There are two types of sunflower seeds, black-striped and black-oil. The striped are not the favorite of many of our Denver birds. However squirrels love them. The smaller black-oil sunflower seed is the favorite of chickadees, grosbeaks and house finches. The favorite blue jay treat is shelled peanuts. Jays will also take up to 10 sunflower seeds at a time. Watch closely and you will notice the jays hiding the seeds in crevices in the bark of nearby trees or in holes they peck in the ground then carefully cover over with a leaf. Sometimes squirrels figure this out and steal the treasure.

White proso millet is a favorite of dark-eyed juncos, house sparrows and mourning doves. Northern flickers and migrating lazuli and indigo buntings enjoy proso millet too. Niger thistle is a favorite of pine siskins and goldfinches. The all-purpose mixes found in supermarkets will attract birds. However, much of the mix is wasted, especially the small, reddish seeds called milo (sorghum). Mourning doves will eat milo but they are not common at city feeders. Doves prefer to feed on the ground in an open area away from houses.

Juncos, sparrows, chickadees, doves, blackbirds, starlings, jays and

grosbeaks prefer ground or open tray feeders. House finches, goldfinches and pine siskins prefer hanging feeders.

Feeders may be purchased ready-made or can be made of recycled plastic gallon milk jugs or plastic liter pop bottles. Thistle should be dispensed from thistle feeders or homemade feeders with tiny holes just large enough for thistle seeds. Trays may be purchased or made of large flower pot protectors, trash can lids or boards with edges nailed on. All trays should have small holes in the bottom to let water drain out. Empty grapefruit halves can be nailed open-side-up on top of fence post and filled with seeds. When the halves dry out, discard and replace with new ones. Squirrels will destroy plastic feeders. To prevent this, hang the feeder on a wire under your porch ceiling or use squirrel baffles. If your feeder is on a pole, try treating the pole with an oil-based spray made to keep food from sticking in pans.

Suet will attract downy and hairy woodpeckers, flickers and nuthatches. Suet can be found in some supermar-

ket meat departments. Plastic mesh produce bags hold suet well. However, if you have squirrels, they will chew holes in the mesh bags if they can get to them. Kidney suet is best; it is harder than the regular types. This usually must be ordered from the butcher, as most markets don't stock it. Suet should not be allowed to get rancid. It is best used in winter and should be placed in a shady place.

The last item that will attract birds to your yard, patio or balcony is water. Choose from many types of bird baths available at nurseries or other gardening outlets. In winter the water will freeze unless a bird bath heater is used. Do not use a heater in a plastic container. Heaters can be ordered from bird supply catalogs or specialty shops. Water is not essential to get birds to come to your yard. In summer they will find water in sprinkler runoff; in winter they will eat snow or drink snow melt.

This should answer some of your questions. Now just sit back and enjoy watching your birds.

Submitted by Ann Bonnell, DBG member and volunteer and Chatfield Arboretum field trip leader.

Volunteer as a naturalist guide at Chatfield Arboretum.



Chatfield Arboretum Needs Naturalist Guides

Chatfield Arboretum will conduct a fast-track five-week training session for volunteers who would like to join its highly successful naturalist guide program this spring. Beginning February 27, the classes will be held on

Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 to 12 at the visitors center.

For more information about this enjoyable, valuable volunteer service call Chatfield Arboretum at 973-3705.

Winter Nature Walks

(Choose any of the following 17 sessions.)

Thursday, Noon to 2:00 p.m.
February 1, 8, 15, 22
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Sunday, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
February 4, 11, 18, 25
March 4, 11, 18, 25

The whole family will enjoy these afternoon walks through the arboretum. The serenity of winter and the starkness of the trees offer excellent opportunities to observe its winter residents. How the plants and animals survive the winter will also be explored. Come bundled up and prepared for cold weather. Hot chocolate and other beverages and snacks will be available.

If space is available, you can register at the arboretum the day of the tour. No preregistration is required. For those who preregister using the enclosed form, please indicate clearly the day (dates).

Instructor: Jim Trammell

Meet: at the Deer Creek Schoolhouse at Chatfield Arboretum

Fee: \$4 members/\$5 non-members per session. Children under 12 free

Limit: 20 adults each session

Winter Pruning

(one session)

Section I: Wednesday, February 7
10:00 a.m. to noon
Section II: Saturday, February 17
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Polly Steele Nature Center, Chatfield Arboretum

To prune or not to prune, that is the question that will be answered in this introductory workshop. Pruning is a practice that baffles many people who want to care for their own trees and shrubs. Through lecture and hands-on demonstration, the why, when, how and how much of winter pruning will be presented. Pruning tools and their care will also be covered.

Please bring sharp pruning shears if you have them.

Instructor: Paul Groeger is a master gardener, past president of the Denver Garden Club and a long-time volunteer at the arboretum.

Fee: \$9 members/\$11 non-members (includes \$1 for materials)

Limit: 20

Basic Beekeeping

(three sessions)

Saturdays, February 10, 17, 24

9:00 a.m. to noon

Polly Steele Nature Center, Chatfield Arboretum

This course is designed to show the beginner how to get started in beekeeping through a step-by-step approach with lectures and demonstrations. Students will learn the entire procedure from setup to honey harvest. A discussion of interesting facts about honey plants, bee behavior, and ecology will also be included.

You'll watch bees at work in an observation hive and will walk to the working hives kept at the arboretum. You'll find out why apiculture is a fun, rewarding and ecologically important hobby.

If you want to know what you need to begin beekeeping, join us at Chatfield Arboretum. Reference books, supply catalogs, supplies and a field trip to a local apiculturalist and supplier are all included.

Instructor: DBG staff member and teacher Carol Dawson has kept bees for over five years.

Directions to Chatfield Arboretum: Take C-470 west to the Wadsworth exit. Turn left and go beneath the underpass 0.4 miles to Deer Creek Road. Turn right and the arboretum entrance is 0.4 miles on the left. Follow this road 0.5 miles and park at the lot at the Visitors' Center (restored schoolhouse). Follow the marked trail across the stream to the Polly Steele Nature Center. You may wish to wear boots if ground is snow covered or wet from snow melt.

Fee: \$36 members/\$39 non-members

Limit: 15

Colorado Conifers

(one session)

Section I: Tuesday, February 20
10:00 a.m. to noon
Section II: Thursday, February 22
10:00 a.m. to noon
Section III: Saturday, February 24
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Deer Creek Schoolhouse, Chatfield Arboretum

Is a Douglas fir tree a true fir? Is the Spruce Tree House at Mesa Verde named that because of the spruce trees growing there? Are there cedar trees in Colorado?

Learning to recognize the native conifer trees of Colorado will be the subject of this indoor class. Participants will learn simple field characteristics of the leaves (needles) and

the cones to aid identification. Interesting natural histories of native conifer trees will also be discussed.

Instructor: Jim Trammell has been a volunteer naturalist and a naturalist coordinator at the arboretum for several years. He teaches at Arapahoe Community College when he is not volunteering at the arboretum.

Fee: \$9 members/\$11 non-members (includes \$1 for materials)

Limit: 20 each session

Miniature Making Workshop

(three sessions)

Saturdays, March 17, 24, 31

9:00 a.m. to noon

Polly Steele Nature Center, Chatfield Arboretum

You will be enchanted with this delightful workshop. Learn the art of producing miniature accessories and custom vignettes constructed on a scale of one inch to one foot.

All tools and supplies will be furnished. Please bring a small lidded container for transporting your finished projects home safely.

Instructor: Pat Vick is a member of the National Association of Miniature Enthusiasts, the Cottage Industries Miniature Trade Association and the Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys. Pat has been actively producing miniature accessories and custom vignettes for the last 12 years.

Fee: \$40 members/\$44 non-members (includes \$4 for materials)

Limit: 12

Winter Botany

(one session)

Saturday, March 10

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Chatfield Arboretum

Learn to recognize trees and shrubs without their leaves. Growth forms, silhouettes, winter fruits, twigs and bud characteristics will be used as aids in identification. You will learn to use a winter plant key during both indoor and outdoor sessions.

Please bring a hand lens if you have one; magnifying glasses will be provided. Come dressed for the weather of the day (including boots or water-proof shoes) and bring a lunch.

Instructor: Vickey Trammell is a popular instructor at Arapahoe Community College, Roxborough State Park, the arboretum, the Rocky Mountain Nature Association and the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

Fee: \$19 members/\$21 non-members (includes \$3 for materials)

Limit: 20

Chatfield

Winter Activities
1990
Chatfield Arboretum





Winter
1990
Denver Botanic Gardens

CLASSES

Learn Now, Pay Later

For the convenience of our members, VISA and MasterCard charges will be accepted for class registration. Students can now register through the mail using either check or charge. Customer copies for all mail registrations will be sent to students as soon as we process the request.

The registration form has been redesigned to accommodate this service. If you have any questions please call the education department, 331-4000, Ext. 20.

Growing Orchids And Other Air Plants

(two sessions)

Saturdays, February 3, 10

9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Classroom B

Epiphytes, or "air plants," will thrive for you when you understand how they've adapted to their forest habitats. You'll explore the unusual conditions under which many kinds of tree-dwelling orchids, bromeliads, anthuriums and ferns live naturally. Then you will learn how to provide the proper care for them in your home or greenhouse.

This is a how-to-grow class. It will emphasize watering, fertilizing, potting and providing light and humidity. Living plants will be used for demonstration. Bring notebook, pen and heavy paper bag to each session to take home your new plant.

Instructor: Larry Latta is the botanist-horticulturist for public information at the Gardens. He's enthusiastic about sharing insights from his years of collecting and growing orchids and other tropicals at home and at the Gardens.

Fee: \$29 members/\$32 non-members (includes \$13 for plants and materials)

Limit: 25

A Garden Quartet: A Foursome of Plants

(four sessions)

Tuesdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27

6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Morrison Center

You need not be a gardening virtuoso to orchestrate a pastoral garden. A simple harmony can result after attending our garden quartet. This series of classes covers ways to use perennials as the instrumental foundation of your garden.

So often we are asked, "What can I grow in the shade?" but the primary elements of the score—foliage, ground covers, annuals and bulbs—are less understood. The relationships of each of these plant categories and their design interactions can create a delightful melody for all four seasons.

Those of you who have enjoyed "Perennial Pleasures" will appreciate this new opus.

Instructor: Andrew Pierce is Acting Director of DBG and an avid horticulturist. He is an accomplished grower of perennials and alpine plants.

Fee: \$32 members/\$35 non-members

Limit: 18

Low Water Plants for Beautiful Gardens

(six sessions)

Tuesdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27,
March 6, 13

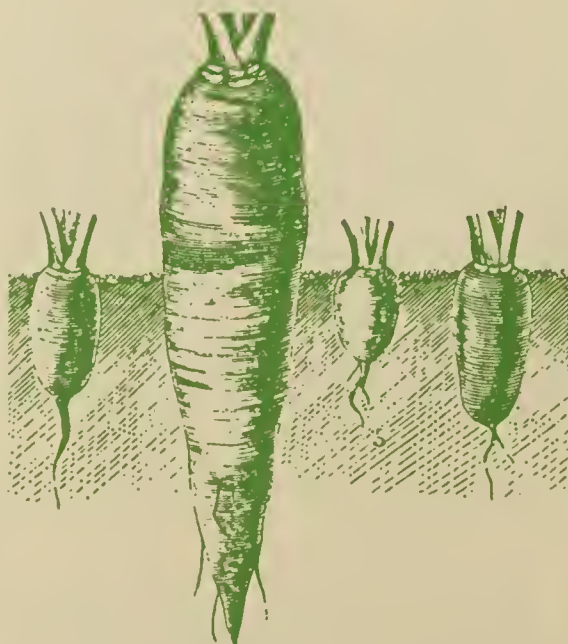
7:15 to 9:30 p.m. Classroom C

Xeriscape is far more than yucca plants and gravel! A water-conserving landscape can have seasonal color and flowers and still be easily maintained. This course will present a wealth of attractive plants and how to use them effectively in the Colorado landscape.

View slides and take an in-depth look at approximately 150 trees, shrubs, vines and ground covers that are available in the Denver area. A discussion of their form, foliage, flower, fruit and function will enable you to select choice plants for your gardens. Attractive groupings and combinations will also be addressed.

Instructor: Alan Rollinger is a professional landscape designer specializing in residential planning. A graduate of CSU, he has completed over 800 landscape projects in Colorado. He designed the garden that received the 1985 Xeriscape Award and other work has been featured on our Terrace and Garden tours and in publications such as *Sunset Magazine* and *Colorado Homes and Lifestyles*. Mr. Rollinger is a knowledgeable horticulturist who has lectured and taught for over 20 years.

Fee: \$48 members/\$53 non-members



CARROTS.



Beginning Bonsai

(four sessions)

Thursdays, February 8, 15, 22
March 1

7:30 to 9:30 pm Classroom B

This popular introductory course will cover the history and cultural techniques of bonsai, the art of creating dwarf trees and shrubs. Instruction in styling, training, potting and care of bonsai will be included.

Each student will take a completed bonsai home and all materials will be provided.

Instructors: Keith Jepson, past president of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society, is an experienced bonsai hobbyist of 17 years. Harold Sasaki is a commercial bonsai grower with 18 years of experience. Both are lively, capable and popular teachers.

Fee: \$54 members/\$59 non-members (includes \$22 for materials)

Limit: 16

The Basics of Organic Gardening

(four sessions)

Saturdays, February 10, 17, 24,
March 3

9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Classroom C

The focus on this basic organic gardening course will be on feeding the soil to feed ourselves. The principles of composting, soil testing and amending humus content will be stressed. Early, mid-, and late-season crops, season extenders, crop rotation, site selection, appropriate varieties of fruits and vegetables for our climate, and seed sources will all be covered.

Learn watering techniques, companion planting, how to start your own transplants, and prevent and control pests and diseases safely. There will be some emphasis on urban gardening techniques such as intensive, wide-row double dug beds as well as lesser

known varieties of easy-to-grow vegetables with high nutritive values.

Instructor: Judy Elliott is an enthusiastic teacher with 15 years of organic gardening experience. She is a master gardener who serves as Conservatory Guide, Pre-school Guide and "Dr. Green," at DBG. She also operates her own city-wide plant doctor business.

Fee: \$32 members/\$36 non-members

How to Train Your Grapevine

(one session)

Saturday, February 10 (February 17 in case of bad weather.)

Noon to 2:00 p.m.

Herb Garden Grape Arbor

Can you train an old vine? How do you prune grapevines? What is a bull cane and can you prune your vines in their first year? In this hands-on workshop, students will learn the techniques of pruning their grapevines. They can, after receiving directions from the instructor, apply the techniques. Each student will have an opportunity to prune the vines in the DBG Herb Garden.

Participants should bring their (sharp) pruning shears, gloves and warm clothing. And yes, you can teach an old vine new tricks!

Instructor: Moras L. Shubert

Fee: \$16 members/\$18 non-members

Limit: 20

Rose Pruning Workshop

(one session)

Saturday, March 24

10:00 a.m. to noon Classroom A

Learn how to prune your beautiful roses to stimulate healthy growth and spectacular blooms. The class will start with a step-by-step presentation covering all rose groups: miniatures, old garden roses, shrubs, hybrid teas and climbers. You will then move from the classroom to the rose garden for a hands-on workshop. Bring gloves and sharp clippers. There will be ample time for questions.

Instructor: Melinda Campbell is a third generation Colorado rose grower. She managed High Country Rosarium for eight years and now specializes in growing hardy old garden, shrub and species roses.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

Limit: 20

The Aquatic Garden: Basic Pool Construction

(one session)

Wednesday, April 4

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Classroom C

Backyard gardeners and do-it-yourselfers will learn how to install their own pools, from start to finish. Included will be site selection and design considerations as well as how to use various membrane liners, including PVC and Hypalon. Although the main emphasis will be on these materials, the pros and cons of concrete and urea resin will also be discussed.

Instructor: John B. Mirgon is a board member of the International Water Lily Society and past president of the Colorado Water Garden Society. He has helped many students learn how to construct their pools and how to garden with aquatic plants.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

The Aquatic Garden: Water Gardening Basics

(two sessions)

Wednesdays, April 11, 18

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Classroom C

Know that your first adventure into water gardening will be a colorful success. This instructor will prepare you with appropriate varieties and how-to's for cultivation and display. His slide-assisted presentation will highlight water lilies, water lotuses and bog plants. The emphasis will be on "putting it all together." You will also receive information on sources, how to prepare a barrel garden and a tour of the DBG greenhouse.

Instructor: Joe Tomocik is a Gardener-Florist II at Denver Botanic Gardens. He maintains the Aquatic Plant Display and enjoys sharing his enthusiasm for these interesting plants with others.

Fee: \$16 member/\$18 non-members



Chair Caning

(six sessions)

**Mondays, February 5, 12, 19, 26
March 5, 12**

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Morrison Center

Learn an age-old craft. Replace that sagging or broken seat in your hard cane, pressed cane, rush or reed chair. With homework, you'll be able to complete at least one project during this course.

No previous experience is necessary. Materials will cost approximately \$10-\$20 and can be purchased at the first session. The instructor will contact you prior to class to discuss each project.

Instructor: Jill Goldberg-Miller is a self-proclaimed "cane addict" who learned the art from her mother. She has taught numerous courses and operates her own business "The Able Caner."

Fee: \$48 members/\$52 non-members (Materials are purchased separately)

Limit: 10

Wheat Weaving Workshop: Mordiford Love Token

(one session)

Saturday, February 3

1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Classroom B

Create a unique, heart-shaped wall hanging for your home or for that special someone. Students will learn the seven-straw plait for this design.

Attendance at a previous wheat weaving course is necessary. Please bring scissors, heavy light brown thread and a ruler to class.

Instructor: Maureen McGowan is a horticultural instructor and consultant who has taught craft classes, including wheat weaving, at the Chicago Botanic Gardens and DBG.

Fees: \$12 members/\$14 non-members (includes \$4 for materials)

Limit: 12

Artistic Garden Grids

(five sessions)

**Mondays, February 12, 19, 26,
March 5, 12**

7:00 to 9:00 pm Classroom A

A new way of enjoying your art, including nature photographs, will be approached in this class. Students will use botanical drawings or favorite photos for enlargement and arrangement in grid drawings.

Demonstration in making the grid will be given followed by a brief talk on values of pencil colors and on pencil techniques. You need to bring graphite pencils, 12" by 12" natural 100 percent cotton rag paper and a ruler to the first session and to the second session a photo or some art work as well as 20" by 30" natural fiber paper, pencils, erasers and a ruler. Students will be working with colored pencils by the fourth class.

Individual instruction and assistance will be provided in each session. All classes will stress the creative and artistic approach to the grid, composition and design.

Instructor: Peg Adamson has been teaching drawing, painting, media techniques, and landscape watercolor at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design since 1984. Her work has appeared in *Westword*, *Rocky Mountain News*, *The Denver Post* and she has exhibited locally and nationally including at Emmanuel Gallery, The Grant Street Arts Center and The Philip J. Steele Gallery in Denver.

Fee: \$40 members/\$44 non-members

Limit: 15



Mainly for Men: A Valentine's Eve Special

(one session)

Tuesday, February 13

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classroom B

Join a new Denver tradition. Make the special person in your life a wonderful nosegay of fresh flowers, including roses and ribbon, all arranged by **you** in a special holder, boxed and tied, ready for giving on Valentine's Day. All flowers and materials are provided, and careful instruction will be included so even the most inexperienced will have instant success! Join a host of other men for a repeat of last year's class, back by popular demand.

Instructors: Rob Proctor and Angela Overy demonstrate flower arranging throughout Colorado. Their informal style and commitment to the success of each participant make their classes perennially popular.

Fee: \$26 members/\$29 non-members

Ukrainian Easter Eggs

(one session)

Saturday, April 7

12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Morrison Center at Denver Botanic Gardens

Ukrainian Easter egg decorating, or *pysanky*, is a centuries-old technique for creating intricate and brilliantly colored patterns on eggs. The process is similar to that used in batik: Designs are drawn with molten wax and are over-dyed.

Please bring rubber gloves and three or more uncooked, crack-free, large white eggs to class; all other materials will be provided.

Instructor: Peggy Johnston studied art education at the University of Wyoming and has extensive teaching experience.

Fee: \$22.50 members/\$24 non-members (includes \$8.50 for materials and a small, basic kit to take home)

Limit: 20

Watercolor Painting

(five sessions)

**Wednesdays, February 28,
March 7, 14, 21, 28**

Section I: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Section II: 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Classroom B

Explore the sparkle and delicacy of watercolor painting while enjoying the natural setting of Denver Botanic Gardens. This course will cover the basic materials and techniques of watercolors with emphasis on freedom of personal expression.

Come prepared with supplies. You'll need: a one-inch flat brush, #10 round brush, watercolor paper, tissues, container for water, plastic palette and cake or tube watercolors.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky currently teaches art history, watercolor painting and oil painting at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, and he displays his work at Inkfish Art Gallery. He is a graduate of the University of Kharkov and the Art College of Kharkov, U.S.S.R. (Mr. Shoshensky will be instructing watercolors during Lynette Swanson-O'Kane's absence during the early part of this year.)

Fee: \$60 members/\$66 non-members

Limit: 15

**Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206**

Fees for courses should be paid in advance by charge, check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your payment is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

Enclosed is _____ to cover the registration fees for the following classes:

Name and section of class(es) _____

Name _____

Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Member ID _____

(on top line of newsletter address label)

Address _____

City _____ ZIP code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐

_____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

If you're an avid gardener you're aware of several trends in landscaping, the major one being the movement away from large expanses of bluegrass lawn. Whether for aesthetic reasons or for saving energy, labor and water, the abandonment of this homogenous yard crop is leading Americans to explore other styles of gardening.

It's a liberating experience. Our perennial, preservation, cottage and rock gardens; "natural" woodlands and prairies; and xeriscapes encourage our creativity to soar. As we've discovered these wonderfully textural and mood-setting styles we realize that our palette of ornamental materials has expanded considerably. There are thousands of plants we can use in place of the traditional bluegrass and border. It's an exciting time to be a gardener.

This company offers an extensive (but unillustrated) price list not only of grasses but of rushes and sedges, perennials, water and bog plants and bamboos. And if you're looking for ground covers you will find in these pages interesting, low-growing plants for any garden condition. (\$2)

Plants of the Southwest, 1812 2nd Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501. You have to see this catalog, if for nothing more than the photographs of beautiful wildflower gardens and dryland plantings. They should dispel whatever hesitation you may have about replanting your yard with water-saving plants.

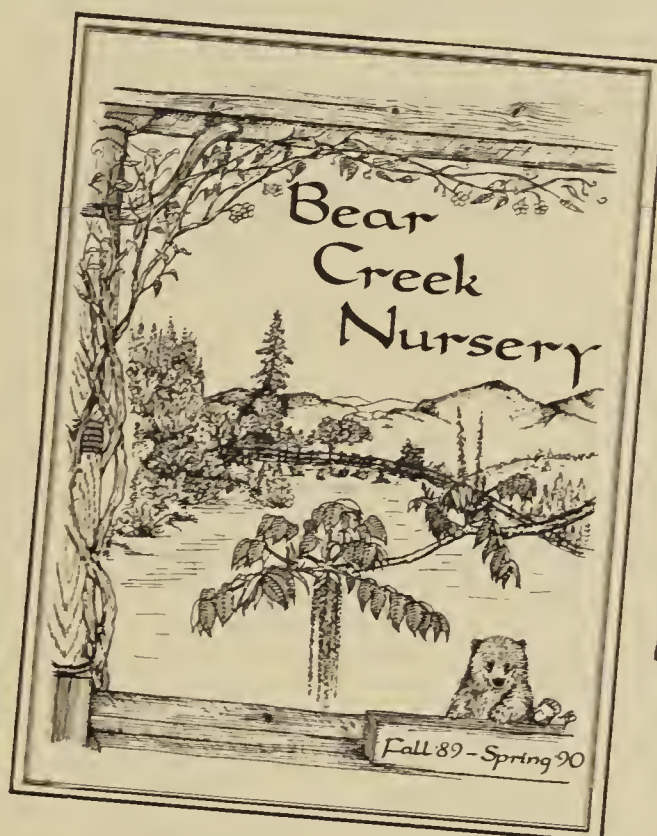
This catalog also has a satisfyingly long list of plants. Each species (usually available as either plants or seeds) is described enthusiastically and its growing conditions specified.

priced inexpensively.

Bear Creek Nursery, P.O. Box 411, Northport, Washington 99157. Are you a do-it-yourself fruit, berry and nut grower? This nursery offers not only a great variety of food trees and shrubs but the tools, supplies, rootstocks, scions and directions for you to make your own.

The list of apple varieties is amazing, but there are surprising plants in every category. Printed on newsprint, sparingly but attractively illustrated, the plant descriptions and comments are full and interesting. Bear Creek sells young seedlings or rooted cuttings of its ornamentals rather than two- to five-year old field grown specimens—you'll find real economy here.

Roses of Yesterday and Today, Inc., Watsonville, California 95076-0398. Rosarians are already familiar with this company. However if you're look-



But these are fashions for which a wide selection of plants is not always readily available from our local seed and nursery outlets. So where can we find these intriguing plants that we read about and wish for?

Well, if this winter's avalanche of seed and nursery catalogs hasn't yet tumbled into your mailbox, you should consider sending for some of the following. They are out-of-the-ordinary catalogs offering hard-to-find plants.

Kurt Bluemel, Inc., 2740 Greene Lane, Baldwin, Maryland 21013-9523. Ornamental grasses are the rising star in landscaping, both domestic and commercial. Either as accent plants or in mass they add welcome textural play among perennials, against walls or along walks. Some stand tall enough to make useful screens. Others have striking bloom spikes that stand out in the garden or in bouquets. Blue, red, yellow, silver—either their leaves or their inflorescences may be subtly colorful.

Plants included range from dryland grasses to wildflowers, trees and shrubs of the desert and mountain southwest. Many of them are hardy here. The list also includes seeds of ancient American vegetables.

There's a respect for our western lands and a love of appropriate gardening that glows throughout this catalog; besides giving good information it may also lift your spirits.

We-Du Nurseries, Route 5, Box 724, Marion, North Carolina 28752. Although these folks specialize in plants of eastern United States woodlands, you'll find many items in their list that are both hardy and appropriate for shade or rock gardens here on the high plains and in the foothills.

I hear that their business is small. You'd never believe it from looking through the catalog: Five hundred thirty nine species and varieties of wildflowers are described, including some from other continents. They are

ing for tough, fragrant shrubs for your yard, you should be too.

There are many antique varieties here suitable for the new, less formal styles of landscaping. The catalog also describes not-so-old hybrids that have gone out of fashion not because they aren't beautiful, dependable roses but because the hype accompanying newer introductions has overshadowed their reputations. The cost of this catalog is \$3.

A note about buying from out-of-town catalog companies: Of course you should buy plants locally, if at all possible. However, our nurseries can't possibly produce all the different plants we desire. These and other lists you'll find in the Helen Fowler Library will help you create an interesting style in your garden from a more colorful palette.

Larry Latta is botanist-horticulturist for public information at DBG.

C A L E N D A R

FEB

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies

A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a **general** indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switchboard during business hours at 331-4000.

African Violet Society, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society**, 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society**, 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club**, 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society**, 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers**, 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society**, 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International**, 4th Fri.; **Iris Society**, spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club**, 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society**, 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society**, 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society**, 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club**, 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society**, 2nd Sun. of 5 months.

S

*First meeting of a class with more than one session

4

11

18

25

M

5

12

19

26

T

6

13

20

27

W

7

14

21

28

T

1

February 1-4
"Flowers from the Royal Gardens of Kew" Exhibit

8

15

22

F

2

9

16

23

S

3

Growing Orchids And Other Air Plants,* Wheat Weaving Workshop

10

17

24

Chair Caning*

A Garden Quartet*

Winter Pruning

Beginning Bonsai*

Artistic Garden Grids*

Mainly for Men: A Valentine's Eve Special

Free Day for Colorado Residents

Colorado Conifers

Colorado Conifers

Colorado Conifers

Watercolor Painting*

Coming Next Month

March 10
Winter Botany

March 16 & 17
Rock Garden Society Symposium

March 24
Rose Pruning Workshop

March 24 & 25
Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale

March 31 & April 1
African Violet Show and Sale

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.

909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
303-331-4000

Address correction requested

TIME VALUE

February 1990



Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 205
Denver, CO



NEWS

**Denver Botanic Gardens
March 1990
Number 90-3**



Rocky Mountain National Park: Search for Our Botanical Legacy

In commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the establishment of Rocky Mountain National Park, Denver Botanic Gardens and Loraine Yeatts will present a slide show titled "Rocky Mountain National Park: Search for Our Botanical Legacy."

Mrs. Yeatts, a well-known Colorado nature photographer and field botanist, is project coordinator for a botanical inventory of Rocky Mountain National Park and also volunteers at the Denver Botanic Gardens herbarium. She was the speaker for the 1987 Carl Tempel Wildflower Lecture and she has presented many other popular programs at Denver Botanic Gardens. Her presentations always reveal her remarkable knowledge and great love of Colorado flora.

Mrs. Yeatts, and a group of volunteers from the herbarium at the Gardens, has spent many months seeking and identifying wildflowers growing in Rocky Mountain National Park. Her slide presentation will review and highlight the best of our high West, plants that are a distinct part of the heritage of the park.

You are encouraged to attend this fascinating and enlightening presentation, Thursday, April 5, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in John C. Mitchell II Hall. Admission is \$6 for members and \$7 for non-members. For more information call the education office at 331-4000, Ext. 20. Use the education department registration form in this newsletter to reserve your seat.

Become A Tour Guide for the Gardens

Summer is an exciting time at Denver Botanic Gardens. School groups, youth groups, garden clubs as well as gardeners, artists and photographers can be seen everywhere enjoying the wonders of the Gardens.

You are invited to participate by becoming a tour guide for the Gardens. Tours will be provided on weekdays, weekends and occasional evenings throughout the summer. For the first time training will be offered on weekends. We hope that many of you will take advantage of this opportunity. We want to hear from our members who work on weekdays and are unable to attend the usual weekday training for guides.

The summer program runs from early May until the end of September.

The classes begin Saturday, March 31, and run for 10 weeks (skipping
continued on page 2

Inside:

African Violet Show and Sale
page 2

Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale
page 2

Annual Members' Meeting and Dinner
page 3

Earth Day Activities
page 4

Chatfield Activities
page 5

1990 Plant and Used Book Sale
page 10

Learn how to lead groups on tours of the Gardens—the class begins March 31.

"Romancing the Alpines" Sale

"Romancing the Alpines" is the title of a plant sale on Saturday, March 17, sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American Rock Garden Society.

The sale will provide an opportunity to purchase unusual rock garden plants and talk with long-time growers about many aspects of rock gardening. Experts will be present in the sale room (John C. Mitchell II Hall) to discuss site selection and planning, soils, construction, plant choice, choice plants, propagation, planting and maintenance.

Hours of the sale are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information call 331-4000, Ext. 24.

Cacti and succulents fill John C. Mitchell II Hall March 24 and March 25.



African Violet Show and Sale on March 31 and April 1

The Rocky Mountain African Violet Council will present its spring show and sale in John C. Mitchell II Hall the weekend of March 31 and April 1. Since entry and judging take place Saturday morning, the show *will not open* to the public until 1 p.m. that day, then run until 4:45. Sunday's hours are 10 a.m. until 4:45 p.m.

Members of the clubs that make up the council will offer small starter plants and large, well groomed specimens of miniatures, standards and trailers in all the latest blossom and leaf colors.

The Rocky Mountain African Violet Council has been a long-time supporter of the Gardens, sharing the proceeds from its DBG sales. For more information call show chairmen Bonita Hutchison, 781-2406, and Janice Sorenson, 220-8799.

Cactus and Succulent Sale

The 1989 Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society show and sale will be at the Gardens Saturday and Sunday, March 24 and 25.

Club members promise thousands of plants, from the inexpensive to the rare and valuable, in pot sizes from two-and-a-half inches up to large specimens and hanging baskets. They will also offer related horticultural items, such as special containers, soil, decorated work aprons and tote bags. A portion of the proceeds from the sale supports the Gardens.

An interpreter for the hearing impaired will be available at all times on both days. Hours of the show are 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Become A Tour Guide

continued from page 1

Saturday, May 12, for the Plant and Used Book Sale) and end June 9. They will start at 9 a.m. and finish at noon.

Everyone in the 10-week class will receive a notebook full of valuable information on the Gardens, its history and the collections found outside. We have many interesting gardens included in the 22 acres: the Rock Alpine Garden; xeriscape, plains, rose, herb gardens; the Wingsong Garden and Aquatic Plant Displays, as well as the perennial garden, the Japanese garden. You'll also receive instruction on how to provide educational tours for visitors.

If you have a few hours to spare each month during the summer, you need not be a plant expert, but someone who understands gardening, enjoys nature and sharing that enthusiasm with others.

To apply, complete the education department registration form in this newsletter. There is a registration fee of \$25 to cover materials. If you wish additional information about the volunteer guiding program call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20. The first class meets in classroom C on Saturday, March 31.

Tributes

In honor of 50th anniversary of Morris and Eleanor Judd

Lois W. Daily
Monica and Bob Kahn
Suzanne McLucas
Jack and Ellie Perlmutter

In memory of Mrs. Caroline Eyler
Patty Figel

In memory of Mott G. Miller
Mildred Earhart

Colorado Federation Of Garden Clubs Course

The Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs will present two days of lectures, Thursday and Friday, April 5 and 6, in landscape design. Outstanding Denver area experts have been chosen to cover a wide range of topics on the subject.

Location of the course, part of a national program, is the federation's headquarters, 1556 Emerson Street, in Denver. The lectures will run from 8:45 a.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m. each day. Fees are \$30 for both days, \$16 for one.

Many members of the federation are members and volunteers of Denver Botanic Gardens and have supported several Gardens projects. Call Mrs. Robert Molloy, Denver chairman, at 499-9528 for information and registration instructions.

Green Thumb News Number 90-3 March 1990

Published monthly by the Denver Botanic Gardens education department, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Patricia A. Pachuta and Carolyn Knepp. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in the Botanic Gardens. For membership information, please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000.

Deadlines for this newsletter are: Major news stories, feature material (including photographs or artwork), and short notes are all due not later than February 20 for April, March 20 for May and April 20 for June.

Late material cannot be used. Stories must be typed, double-spaced, preferably on copy paper provided by the editors. Please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20, for details.



Annual Members' Meeting and Dinner: Italian Night at the Gardens

Mr. Edward P. Connors, former president of the Board of Trustees (1985-1987), will present a slide-assisted lecture and travel tour, "Glorious Italian Gardens ... Roman Times to the 20th Century," at the annual Denver Botanic Gardens members' dinner and meeting the evening of April 19. The event is open to all members of the Gardens—see the for-


mal announcement and reservation form.

Mr. Connors teaches history, especially art history, at Kent Denver Country Day School and has led numerous exciting, educational history and art-oriented tours through Europe.

Serving on the DBG board since 1969, he is also active in many other environmental groups in the region: as president of the Colorado Open Space Council, a member of the Rocky Mountain Center on the Environment, a special advisor to the Volun-

teers of Outdoor Colorado and a member of the President's Council of the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center. He's also an honorary member of the Garden Club of America.

Mr. Connors' talk will follow a robust Italian meal and will round out a festive Italian night at the Gardens. You will want to attend and to share a friendly and enlightening spring evening with Mr. Connors, other trustees and fellow gardeners and botanists, all members of the Gardens. Activities begin at 6 p.m. with a cash bar cocktail hour.



**The Board of Trustees
of Denver Botanic Gardens
cordially invites you to attend**

Italian Night at the Gardens

**The Denver Botanic Gardens
Annual Members' Meeting and Dinner**

**with speaker
Mr. Edward P. Connors
presenting**

***Glorious Italian Gardens ...
Roman Times to the 20th Century***

**Thursday, April 19, 1990
in
John C. Mitchell II Hall**

**Cocktails at 6 p.m.
Dinner at 6:45 p.m.
A brief meeting follows**

**Reservations are \$15 per person
Cash bar**



Please make your reservation with the attached form. It must be post-marked by April 10, 1990. Your reservation will be held at the door.

Mail with check to:
Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street, Denver, CO 80206

Members' Annual Meeting and Dinner Reservation Form

Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ member(s) for the DBG Annual Members' Meeting and Dinner.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____



4 Join Earth Day Activities In April

Next month Denver Botanic Gardens joins the celebration of a very important 20th birthday: On April 22, 1970, Earth Day was born.

This tentative awakening to Earth's increasing environmental fragility was marked, primarily, by teach-ins at American colleges. In 1990, however, hundreds of environmental groups not in existence two decades ago hope to promote wise environmental policies world wide.

You can help, and you can make a difference. How about starting by using your membership at Denver Botanic Gardens? The Gardens has planned special classes, field trips, family activities and demonstrations at the Gardens, at Chatfield Arboretum and through nearby interesting urban open spaces—all structured around Earth Day and Arbor Day. Details of these opportunities will be printed in the April *Green Thumb News*.

Explore the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt during Earth Week.

In the meantime, consider becoming a volunteer guide, helping youngsters or adults understand the importance of the Boettcher Memorial Conservatory tropical forest, or the significance of the Wingsong Garden (the "bird berm"), the Xeriscape Demonstration Garden, the plains garden or the Rock Alpine Garden?

Mrs. Greg Brown, the state conservation and legislative chairman of the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, wrote in a recent article for the federation's newsletter, *The Gardener*, "We all have a different 'awakening' point at which we became aware of our role in preserving the resources of this planet and begin to examine our role in this preservation."

Whether you have just reached your awakening point or have already adopted a role in preservation you will want to celebrate with the Gardens by learning more about the plants of our planet. Join the Denver Botanic Gardens Earth Day classes, field trips and activities in April.



Explore Chatfield Arboretum

Saturday, April 14

10 a.m. to noon

Located to the southwest of metropolitan Denver is a natural jewel beginning to glow. Another of our urban treasures, the arboretum consists of trails through wetlands and a streamside riparian community (Deer Creek), a historic farm and foothills plant communities. The wetlands have attracted various animals. Expect to see waterfowl, nesting owls and grazing deer.

Early spring flowers will be at their best. The region is lush with chokecherry, wild clematis and more. Wetland flowers will also be blooming.

Meet your friends at the Gardens this spring for a picnic lunch.



Wear sturdy walking shoes, and dress for changes in the weather. Take drinking water, camera and binoculars if you wish. Plan to stay after the walk and enjoy your lunch at the picnic area.

Meet: at the Visitor Center (the schoolhouse) of Chatfield Arboretum promptly at 10 a.m.

Leader: Two of Chatfield Arboretum's highly trained guides will share their knowledge of the arboretum with you on this trip.

Fee: \$4 members/\$5 non-members

Limit: 20

Plant Life Field Trip: Red Rocks Park

Section I: Wednesday, April 18
Section II: Saturday, April 21

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

This is an opportunity to observe some of the delightful early spring wildflowers of Red Rocks Park. Sagebrush buttercups, Easter daisies, spring-beauties, Oregon grapes and some of the mustards should all be in flower. Bring a lunch.

Leaders: Peter Root is an amateur botanist who volunteers regularly at the Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium at DBG. He is also a volunteer naturalist at Roxborough State Park. Mary Edwards is an enthusiastic botanist who volunteers in the herbarium and has led many DBG field trips.

Meet: At 9 a.m. in the main parking lot of Denver Botanic Gardens to carpool and share gasoline expenses, or call 331-4000, Ext. 20 for directions.

Fee: \$2 per person

Wheat Ridge Greenbelt Bicycle Trip

Saturday, April 21

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Denver area is fortunate to have incredible wildlife and natural areas. Many of the drainages flowing out of the mountains create intriguing communities, and these riparian retreats provide trained observers with delightful surprises.

This field trip is part of Earth Day activities. You can park your car at (or ride your bike to) Prospect Park off of West 44th between Youngfield and Kipling and then ride your bike to explore the Clear Creek drainage.

Everyone will meet and then bicycle along the pathway in this riparian habitat framed by the large cottonwood trees of Clear Creek. Early to mid-spring wildflowers will be plentiful. Waterfowl and some migratory birds may be found along the ponds. Fox and deer have been spotted along this Greenbelt.

Any bike will do. Pack a lunch and beverage to carry. Bring your binoculars.

Meet: Prospect Park, 11400 West 44th Avenue (between Youngfield and Kipling), on the bridge over Clear Creek on the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt. If you drive you can leave your car in the parking lot and ride your bike to the bridge.

Instructor: Paul D. Kilburn, Ph.D., has taught botany and ecology in Illinois and Colorado for many years.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 12

**Denver Botanic Gardens
and Chatfield Arboretum**

Calendar of Events

1990

January	13 - February 4	"Flowers from the Royal Gardens of Kew"—Originals from Curtis's Botanical Magazine
February	18	Free Day (York Street Gardens)
March	16, 17	Rocky Mountain Chapter of the American Rock Garden Society: Symposium, Workshop, Plant Sale
	24, 25	Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society: Succulent Show and Sale
	31, April 1	Rocky Mountain African Violet Council: Spring African Violet Show and Sale
April	1 - October 31	Chatfield Arboretum Open to Public <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesdays, Thursday, Fridays: Pre-arranged tours • Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays: General public
	7	Denver Rose Society: Rose Symposium
	14	Free Day (York Street Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum)
May	10	Denver Botanic Gardens: Plant and Used Book Sale Preview Party—"The Flowering of Denver"
	11, 12	Denver Botanic Gardens: Plant and Used Book Sale
	23	Denver Botanic Gardens Guild: Herb Garden Open House
	23	Free Day (York Street Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum)
	26	Denver Rose Society: Old Garden Rose Show
	26 - September 2	Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays: Gardens' evening hours extended to 8 o'clock.
June	2, 3	American Iris Society, Region 20: Iris Show
	2, 9	Mushroom Identification Workshop
	9, 10	Rocky Mountain Koi Club: Japanese Pond Fish Show
	9	Denver Rose Society: Rose Arranging Workshop
	10	Colorado Water Garden Society: Water Plants Auction
	13	"Escape to the Gardens", until 8 p.m.
	16, 17	Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society: Bonsai Exhibition
	21, 22	ListenUp Garden Concert
	26	Young Audiences Concert
	30 - July 4	Colorado Watercolor Society: Watercolor Exhibit and Sale
Denver Botanic Gardens		
1005 York Street		
Denver, CO (303) 331-4000		



- 11, 12 *Denver Botanic Gardens: Plant
and Used Book Sale*
- 23 *Denver Botanic Gardens Guild:
Herb Garden Open House*
- 23 *Free Day (York Street Gardens
and Chatfield Arboretum)*
- 26 *Denver Rose Society: Old Garden
Rose Show*

26 - September 2 *Wednesdays, Saturdays and
Sundays: Gardens' evening
hours extended to 8 o'clock.*

June

- 2, 3 *American Iris Society, Region
20: Iris Show*
- 2, 9 *Mushroom Identification
Workshop*
- 9, 10 *Rocky Mountain Koi Club:
Japanese Pond Fish Show*
- 9 *Denver Rose Society: Rose
Arranging Workshop*
- 10 *Colorado Water Garden Society:
Water Plants Auction*
- 13 *"Escape to the Gardens", until 8
p.m.*
- 16, 17 *Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society:
Bonsai Exhibition*
- 21, 22 *ListenUp Garden Concert*
- 26 *Young Audiences Concert*
- 30 - July 4 *Colorado Watercolor Society:
Watercolor Exhibit and Sale*

Denver Botanic Gardens

1005 York Street

Denver, CO (303) 331-4000



Chatfield Arboretum Opens for First Season

Chatfield Arboretum, a unit of Denver Botanic Gardens, will open to the public beginning April 1. (The official grand opening ceremony is being saved for Sunday, April 22, as a part of the arboretum's Arbor Day celebration.) The arboretum will remain open until October 31 for its first season. Members of Denver Botanic Gardens, school groups (on pre-arranged visits) and children under 12 will be admitted free. A fee of \$1 per person will be charged non-members.

Following is the schedule of daily hours:

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (schools)
Wednesday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (schools)
Friday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (schools)
Saturday	9 a.m. to dusk
Sunday	9 a.m. to dusk

Self-guided tours are undertaken during all open hours. Picnic facilities are available first-come, first-served. Reservations for the gazebo, meeting rooms, schoolhouse, outdoor

amphitheater, tractor pulled hayrides and a people carrier can be made for special occasions. Many nature classes and special activities for children and adults will be scheduled throughout the year.

Winter hours from November 1 through March 31 are limited to classes, tours by reservation and special seasonal activities as announced. Self-guided tours are not available during the winter. Watch for the schedule of classes and activities in this newsletter. Call the arboretum at 973-3705 for further information.

Miniature-Making Workshop (An Introduction to Dollhouse Miniatures)

(three sessions)

Saturdays, March 17, 24, 31

9:00 to 12 noon

Polly Steele Nature Center
Chatfield Arboretum

Session I. An Overview of Collecting and Making Miniatures

We'll concentrate on scale, basic tools, basic supplies and sources for materials, including "found" objects. The instructor will also demonstrate a variety of items from her collection.

Session II. Displaying Miniatures Outside the Dollhouse

Dollhouses are frequently too large for most households, therefore you will learn how to use easy-to-make-or-find boxes, room settings, and unusual display containers.

Session III. Accessory Making Based on Class's Choice

Many options will be available. You will choose items of interest based on previously shown demonstration materials. Some optional items include office, kitchen, bath, child's room or bedroom accessories.

All tools and supplies will be furnished, but please bring a small lidded box or reusable refrigerator (margarine) container for transporting your finished projects home.

Instructor: Pat Vick is a member of the National Association of Miniature Enthusiasts and The Cottage Industries Miniature Trade Association. She's also a member/volunteer of the Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys.

Fee: \$40 members/\$44 non-members (includes \$4 for materials)

Limit: 12



Planning Your Home Landscape—I

(two sessions)

Saturdays, April 14 and 28

1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Visitor Center at Chatfield Arboretum

During the first session you will survey basic design principles and the processes for developing and building a landscape that suits your needs. Such topics as size analysis, circulation planning, microclimates, grading, drainage, paving, patios, irrigation systems and ecology will be covered, as well as plant material: trees, shrubs, groundcovers, lawns, native grasses and flowers.

You will develop a design project during the two weeks between the first and second class session. Your master landscape plan can then be your own home or another project of your choice.

Instructor: Thomas L. Stephens is a practicing landscape architect with more than 25 years as a professional designer. He has been teaching home landscape design for 19 years.

Fee: \$46 members/\$50 non-members (includes \$14 for materials)

Limit: 20

Beginning Bird Watching

(three sessions)

Wednesdays, April 11, 18, 25

10:00 a.m. to noon

Polly Steele Nature Center at Chatfield Arboretum

Come join one of the most popular activities enjoyed by outdoor enthusiasts. You will learn to recognize birds by their calls, flight patterns and markings. After a short introductory classroom discussion you will search the fields and wooded areas of the arboretum for new bird residents. Please come dressed for the weather conditions of the day. Remember April mornings can be windy and cool.

During the first session a short discussion about binoculars and field guides will be presented. If you already have binoculars and field guides bring them along, but do not go out and buy binoculars and field guides for the class until you learn some tips about the equipment you will need.

Instructor: Ann Bonnell is an experienced birder. She is a member of the Tuesday Birders, the Denver Audubon Society, and the Denver Field Ornithologists.

Fee: \$25 members/\$28 non-members (includes \$1 for materials)

Limit: 12

Chatfield Arboretum

Winter Activities
1990





Winter
1990

1990

Denver Botanic Gardens

CLASSES

Rose Pruning Workshop

(one session)

Saturday, March 24

10:00 a.m. to noon Classroom A

Learn how to prune your beautiful roses to stimulate healthy growth and spectacular blooms. The class will start with a step-by-step presentation covering all rose groups: miniatures, old garden roses, shrubs, hybrid teas and climbers. You will then move from the classroom to the rose garden for a hands-on workshop. Bring gloves and sharp clippers. There will be ample time for questions.

Instructor: Melinda Campbell is a third generation Colorado rose grower. She managed High Country Rosarium for eight years and now specializes in growing hardy old garden, shrub and species roses.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

Limit: 20



The Aquatic Garden: Basic Pool Construction

(one session)

Wednesday, April 4

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classroom C

Backyard gardeners and do-it-yourselfers will learn how to install their own pools, from start to finish. Included will be site selection and design considerations as well as how to use various membrane liners, including PVC and Hypalon. Although the main emphasis will be on these materials, the pros and cons of concrete and urea resin will also be discussed.

Instructor: John B. Mirgon is a board member of the International Water Lily Society and past president of the Colorado Water Garden Society. He has helped many students learn how to construct their pools and how to garden with aquatic plants.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members



The Aquatic Garden: Water Gardening Basics

(two sessions)

Wednesdays, April 11, 18

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classroom C

Know that your first adventure into water gardening will be a colorful success. This instructor will prepare you with appropriate varieties and how-to's for cultivation and display. His slide-assisted presentation will highlight water lilies, water lotuses and

bog plants. The emphasis will be on "putting it all together." You will also receive information on sources, how to prepare a barrel garden and a tour of the DBG greenhouse.

Instructor: Joe Tomocik is a Gardener-Florist II at Denver Botanic Gardens. He maintains the Aquatic Plant Display and enjoys sharing his enthusiasm for these interesting plants with others.

Fee: \$16 member/\$18 non-members



Rocky Mountain National Park: Search for Our Botanical Legacy

(one session)

Thursday, April 5

7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

John C. Mitchell II Hall

Learn more about the rich botanical heritage provided by Rocky Mountain National Park. In this slide program you will observe the wealth of wildflowers many photographers, painters and wildflower enthusiasts have already discovered.

For more information on this lecture see the article on page 1.

Lecturer: Loraine Yeatts is a well-known nature photographer and field botanist who spends much of her free time researching and photographing flowers in Rocky Mountain National Park and assisting in the herbarium at Denver Botanic Gardens.

Fee: \$6 members/\$7 non-members



Beginning Bonsai

(four sessions)

Thursdays, April 5, 12, 19, 26

7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Classroom B

This popular introductory course will cover the history and cultural techniques of bonsai. Instruction on styling, training, potting and care of bonsai will be included. Each student will take a completed bonsai home, and all materials will be provided.

Instructors: Keith Jeppson, past president of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society, is an experienced bonsai hobbyist of 17 years. Harold Sasaki is a commercial bonsai grower with 18 years of experience. Both are lively, capable and popular teachers.

Fee: \$54 members/\$59 non-members (includes \$22 for materials)

Limit: 16

The Secrets of Summer Bulbs

(one session)

Saturday, April 7

1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Classroom C

Many species of hardy and tender bulbs put on an impressive show in Colorado gardens. Learn the secrets of incorporating summer bulbs into your landscape. By planting Asiatic, Aurelian and Oriental hybrid lilies, you can achieve a continuous display from June to October. Cannas, dahlias, gladiolus and tuberose can be added to the perennial border or grown in a cutting garden. Unusual bulbs such as *hymenocallis* (Peruvian daffodil), *tigridia* (Mexican shell flower), *Ixia* (Africa bells), and *galtonia* (summer hyacinth) add an exotic touch. Many summer bulbs can be grown in containers. The keys to successful growing will be discussed, as well as sources for unusual species.

Instructor: Rob Proctor is a popular instructor at DBG, as well as Chairman of "The Flowering of Denver," the Plant and Used Book Sale in May. His Capitol Hill garden features over 400 varieties of hybrid lilies and an ever-changing assortment of summer bulbs.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members



Beyond Marigolds — A Palette of Annuals

(two sessions)

Thursdays, April 12 and 19

7 to 9 p.m.

Classroom C

In Colorado we have the perfect climate for growing the brightest, most beautiful annuals. But we don't grow nearly the variety we could! Beyond the old friends—petunias, alyssums and marigolds—lies a whole world of other gems waiting to be discovered, planted and grown.

Meet some of these lesser-known annuals—for sun, drought, shade, fragrance, cutting and drying, for all situations and tastes. Learn where to get them, how to grow them and how to combine them creatively with each other and with other plants. You will be ready for your most colorful, flower-filled summer yet.

Instructor: Lauren Springer studied horticulture at Penn State University. She is an experienced teacher who has gardened in England, Ireland, the Midwest and Colorado. Her article, "Fall Favorites" was published this past fall in *Fine Gardening*.

Fee: \$16 members/\$18 non-members

Herbs in the Garden

(one session)

Thursday, April 26

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Morrison Center at Denver Botanic Gardens

Most gardeners don't have the time or space for an elaborate herb garden. But this isn't a problem; it can be an exciting design challenge. Many herbs are beautiful as well as useful, and can be combined very effectively with other plants in the garden. Learn about growing herbs that add texture, color, form and fragrance to your garden, and how to incorporate them artistically with annuals, perennials, shrubs and roses.

Instructor: Lauren Springer

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members



Japanese Tea Ceremony

(one session)

Section I: Saturday, April 14

Section II: Sunday, April 22

Section III: Sunday, May 13

Section IV: Saturday, May 19

2 to 3 p.m.

Tea House in DBG's Japanese Garden

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Because of its emphasis on such concepts as harmony, respect, purity, tranquility and elegant simplicity, the tea ceremony has for centuries been considered the epitome of Japanese life. This is an opportunity to experience an authentic tea ceremony in the quiet splendor of our Japanese Garden.

Instructor: Kathryn Kawakami has done much to inform Denver-area residents and students about the culture of Japan.

Fee: \$4.50 members/\$5 non-members

Limit: 15



Winter Botany

(one session)

Saturday, March 10

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Chatfield Arboretum

Learn to recognize trees and shrubs without their leaves. Growth forms, silhouettes, winter fruits, twigs and bud characteristics will be used as aids in identification. You will learn to use a winter plant key during both

indoor and outdoor sessions.

Please bring a hand lens if you have one; magnifying glasses will be provided. Come dressed for the weather of the day (including boots or water-proof shoes) and bring a lunch.

Instructor: Vickey Trammell is a popular instructor at Arapahoe Community College, Roxborough State Park, the arboretum, the Rocky Mountain Nature Association and the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

Fee: \$19 members/\$21 non-members (includes \$3 for materials)

Limit: 20



The Case of the African Violet

(one session)

Saturday, April 21

9:30 a.m. to noon

Classroom B

This is a class for enthusiasts who want or need information on the basics of African violet care: lighting, feeding, watering, temperature control, cleaning, soils, pests, propagation and more.

Bring a couple of your African violets to this class and learn why they won't grow—or why they have grown so tall. Learn the art of leaf propagation and how to separate "babies."

This hands-on workshop will be chock-full of information, and what you don't retain from the informal work-lecture format you can take home in a handout especially prepared by your instructor.

You need only bring a clean, sharp knife and, if you wish, a pest-free plant or two from your own collection. The instructor will provide cuttings.

Instructor: Debbie Griffith has been growing African violets for 12 years. She is currently president of the Rocky Mountain African Violet Council and a senior show judge. She has taught many workshops and has helped other enthusiasts understand their plants.

Fee: \$13 members/\$16 non-members

Limit: 20



Introduction to Rocky Mountain Xeriscape

(one session)

Wednesday, May 2

7 to 9:30 p.m.

Classroom C

Xeriscape—what it looks like (it's not cactus and gravel), what it costs

(and what it doesn't cost) and how to plan (and plant) it—this introduction addresses these topics.

This is not a design class, but an excellent introduction to principles of dryland gardening.

A demonstration of the site planning process and a slide-illustrated lecture will complete the class and help direct you into the world of low water bills and an attractive yard. Time will be provided for questions.

Instructor: Jim Knopf is a landscape architect who has designed many local residential landscapes with low-water demand plants. He is the author of *Edible & Useful Wildplants of the Urban West* and has extensive teaching experience.

Fee: \$10 members/\$12 non-members



Garden Railway Design

(two sessions)

Saturdays, May 5 and 19

(skip May 12)

1 to 3:30 p.m.

Classroom C

Learn how to create a xeriscape garden with the Santa Fe line running through a miniature landscape in your own backyard, or the Southern Pacific in your rock garden.

These undertakings require neither a large space nor a large budget. Learn which plants make effective miniature trees, which plants provide year-round interest and where to go for your plant material. Learn how to place the tracks and where to go for guidance.

The first meeting of this two-session class will explore the basics. The second session will discuss some basics again but will take you to actual gardens with model railways and miniature landscapes, each distinctly different from the other.

Instructor: Barbara Horovitz operates a garden railway in Denver with her husband. She is a member of the Denver Garden Railway Association and they publish the bimonthly *Garden Railways Magazine* (available in the Helen Fowler Library). She has recently written an article on garden railways for *Fine Gardening* (available in the Helen Fowler Library). Her enthusiasm for this hobby has helped the development of garden railroading revival in the Denver area and the United States.

Fee: \$20 members/\$24 non-members

Beginning Ikebana Lessons

(four sessions)

Saturdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Morrison Center at Denver Botanic Gardens

In this introductory course students will view slides and gain a preliminary understanding of four schools of arranging: Ikenobo, Chiko, Ohara and Sogetsu. They will practice and take home beginning efforts at light, airy arrangements of spring flowers such as irises and pussy willows.

Please bring the following materials to class: round or rectangular ceramic container (no smaller than 12 inches long and two inches deep), two needle-point flower holders (one that is two inches wide and one that is three inches wide or larger), sharp clippers, small bucket (or other container to hold flowers and water) and notebook.

Although flowers will be provided, students should bring their own line material (branches) cut from their yards.

Instructor: Joan Wooldridge is past president of Ikebana International and has teacher's certification in two schools of design.

Fee: \$44 members/\$47 non-members (includes \$12 for flowers)

Limit: 12



Beginning Copperplate Calligraphy

(six sessions)

Tuesdays, April 3, 10, 17, 24
May 1, 8

1 to 3 p.m. Morrison Center at Denver Botanic Gardens

Copperplate calligraphy originated in the 17th century and had many uses, from labeling botanical illustrations to accounting. Its popularity grew due to its users' ability to write at a fast pace and still remain neat and legible. The script is achieved using a flexible point, unlike most calligraphy that uses a broad edge. This introductory course will teach students the basic letter forms of the script, the use of proper materials, color and simple design.

Instructor: Alicia McKim studied art at Western State College and is a free-lance calligrapher whose work is exhibited widely.

Fee: \$48 members/\$53 non-members. Necessary supplies will be available at the first class for approximately \$10.



Ukrainian Easter Eggs

(one session)

Saturday, April 7

12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Morrison Center at Denver Botanic Gardens

Ukrainian Easter egg decorating, or *pysanky*, is a centuries-old technique for creating intricate and brilliantly

Please bring rubber gloves and three or more uncooked, crack-free, large white eggs to class; all other materials will be provided.

Instructor: Peggy Johnston studied art education at the University of Wyoming and has extensive teaching experience.

Fee: \$22.50 members/\$24 non-members (includes \$8.50 for materials and a

small, basic kit to take home)

Limit: 20



Watercolor Painting

(five sessions)

Wednesdays, April 11, 18, 25
May 2, 9

Section I: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Section II: 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Classroom B

Explore the sparkle and delicacy of watercolor painting while enjoying the natural setting of Denver Botanic Gardens. This course will cover the basic materials and techniques of watercolors with the emphasis on freedom of personal expression.

Come prepared with supplies. You'll need: one-inch flat brush, #10 round brush, watercolor paper, tissues, container for water, plastic palette and cake or tube watercolors.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky currently teaches art history, watercolor painting and oil painting at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design and he displays his work at Inkfish Art Gallery. He is a graduate of the University of Kharkov, U.S.S.R.

Fee: \$60 members/\$66 non-members

Limit: 15



Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206

Fees for courses should be paid in advance by charge, check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your payment is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

Enclosed is _____ to cover the registration fees for the following classes:

Name and section of class(es) _____

Name _____

Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Member ID _____

(on top line of newsletter address label)

Address _____

City _____ ZIP code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐

_____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

LIBRARY JOURNALS

Helen Fowler Library
Volume 13, No. 1
March 1990
Librarian:
Solange Gignac



Book Donations Urgently Needed

Books are urgently needed—all subjects! The Helen Fowler Library wants hardbacks and paperbacks of fiction, gardening, history, reference, juvenile, crafts or just about any other topics. Records, videotapes and foreign stamps are also being accepted for the annual Plant and Used Book Sale in May.

Please bring donations to the Helen Fowler Library any day between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or call 331-4000, Ext. 32, for pick-up information. Your donations will be recycled at the sale and will benefit the library.

Ornamental Grass Gardening: Design Ideas, Functions and Effects

By Thomas A. Reinhardt, Martina Reinhardt and Mark Moskowitz. Michael Friedman Publishing Group. \$19.95. SB 431.7 R4 1988

Sitting in Denver's City Park next to some spiraeas and junipers is a stand of maiden grass. Six, perhaps eight, large clumps of the grass stand over six feet tall. The maiden grass is wearing January brown. In the breeze the grasses sound like the ocean or the leaves of a tree. The rustle of the winter grass reminds me of the noise of summer, a wonderful memory caused by the movement and texture of the maiden grass on what was a dull winter day.

I enjoy the many landscape design possibilities of grasses. They supply texture to flower beds and contrast to evergreens, replace shrubs with year-round interest and soften the hard lines of walls and pathways.

The authors extrapolate landscape design fundamentals by taking traditional shrubs, perennials, ground covers and replace them with ornamental grasses. They did a fine job of substituting one set of plant types for another.

I like *Ornamental Grass Gardening* because it's a pictorial. The photos give as much information as the text. The format is similar to *USA Today*—bold captions with short descriptive paragraphs on the photos.

Sherwin Rudnick
Landscape gardener



A Small Garden Designer's Handbook

By Roy Strong. Little, Brown and Company, Boston, Toronto, London. \$19.95. 1987. SB 473 .S848 Sm 1987

The past director of the Victoria and Albert Museum and of the National Portrait Gallery (London) brings together his knowledge of art history and of classic garden design in this book. Most of the book's 137 pages are taken up by 128 full-color photographs of bewitchingly beautiful garden views. The text is concise. Careful reading and close study of the illustrations will teach the reader a great deal about perspective, proportion and design.

There is no easy path to a well-designed garden. In the first planning stages, the author instructs us to study our garden from an upstairs window as well as from the ground, paying special attention to our surroundings. He reminds us that large gardens of estates frequently were set below terraces so that the overall display might be enjoyed. We look in on

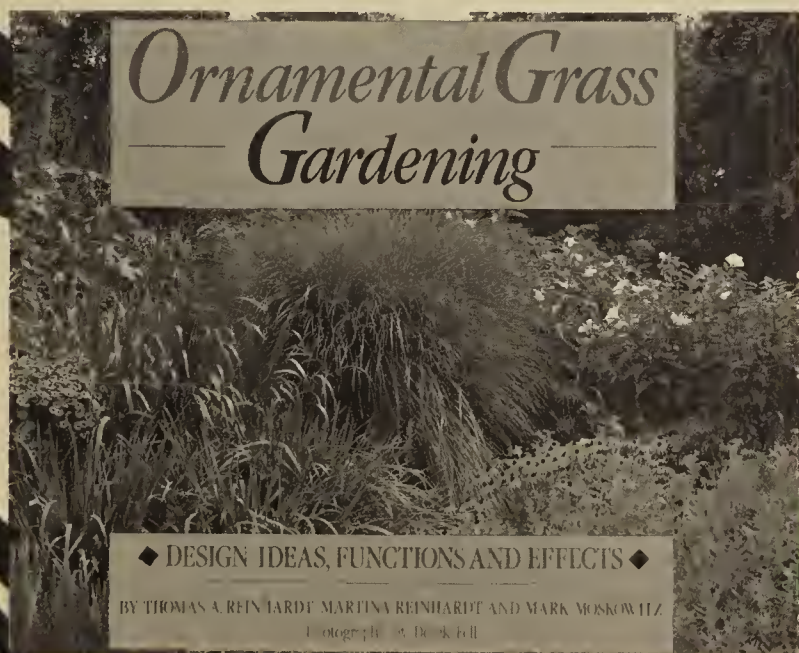
medieval and renaissance gardens, glance at 18th and 19th century designs and after a nod to Edward Luytens and Gertrude Jekyll find Mr. Strong applying a distillation of these traditions to the present-day smaller gardens.

Although his examples are in the English style, as are his plants, the emphasis on proportion, patience and quality of material apply to gardens everywhere. His specific comments on the success or failure of elements of design and accessory may not coincide with yours, but it is stimulating to consider the points he raises. He emphasizes the appropriateness of material to the design of the garden, and the importance of tying both of these to the style of the house, as well as to the needs of the family.

There is a bibliography with remarks on each book, an index and a list of planting suggestions arranged by chapter.

Virginia Stratton
DBG member and volunteer

(This book is available in the Gift Shop.)



A Note from Your Plant and Used Book Sale Chairman

Front Range gardeners gather for their annual spring rites at "The Flowering of Denver," the 41st annual Plant and Used Book Sale, May 11 and 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. As a thank-you to all DBG members who have supported us so generously in the past we will open the Gaylord Street gate (behind the Conservatory) at 8:30 a.m. on Friday morning for members only to get a jump on their shopping. (Please note that only this gate will be open, and only on Friday morning. Members must present their cards, and no guests are allowed.) We hope members will take advantage of the early hour.

New volunteers are invited to attend the volunteer fair on Saturday, March 31, at 9 a.m. in DBG's Morrison Center. Our returning volunteers are welcome too; they may enjoy slide presentations about some of the exciting new plants and old favorites. Refresh-

ments will be served. To attend, please fill in the form below and return it to the Gardens. Experienced volunteers may wish to apply for positions as assistant division chairmen—to do so, fill in the form too. If you are unable to attend but would like to participate in the sale, please note that on your form. Our volunteers benefit by being able to do their shopping on Thursday afternoon.

We encourage gardeners to pot seedlings and divisions from their own gardens for the home donations division of the sale. Please pot your plants well ahead of time (preferably not in cottage cheese cartons!) and leave them at the Gaylord gate on May 8, 9 and 10 (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings before the sale). Please contact Chairmen Elinor Newmarker at 755-7662 or Marilyn Moore at 388-6934 if you have questions.

Circle Thursday evening, May 10, on your calendar for Denver's most beautiful party—the Pre-sale Party for the "Flowering of Denver." Chairman Lee Urbana promises a lovely buffet and lilting music to accompany shopping and socializing. A personally designed rose garden will be awarded to a lucky patron of the Pre-sale Party. Tickets are \$40 per person; reservations may be made through the development office at 331-4000, Ext. 25.

Once again, please accept our invitation to become part of "The Flowering of Denver" as a volunteer or as a preferred customer at the Pre-sale Party. Your enthusiasm will help the Gardens grow and metropolitan Denver bloom.

Rob Proctor, chairman, and Jane Davis, co-chairman, 1990 Plant and Used Book Sale.

Volunteer to help the 1990 Plant and Used Book Sale.



1990 "Flowering of Denver" Plant and Used Book Sale Volunteer Signup

Yes _____ I would like to help as a NEW volunteer at "The Flowering of Denver" on May 10, 11 or 12,
or _____ I would like to apply to be an Assistant Division Chairman.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Evening Phone _____ Daytime Phone _____

Special Skills _____

Mail to: Denver Botanic Gardens, Plant Sale; 909 York Street; Denver, CO 80206

Gardening: Perennials Need Good Soil

A January meeting at Denver Botanic Gardens among 40 Front Range nursery plant growers and garden center managers and a handful of DBG horticulturists revealed a mildly astonishing trend: In the past four years the dollars spent by local homeowners and professional landscapers on perennial plants have increased from around two to five percent of sales to the 30 to 35 percent range.

That's phenomenal growth for any commodity that's been around for so long. Two questions presented themselves, "Where are all those perennials now?" You'd think the streets of Denver would be lined with front yards in the style of English cottage gardens. So, "Are local gardeners, experienced or novice, losing their perennials nearly as rapidly as they buy them?"

Not being able to peek into our fellow citizens' backyards—where the perennials may be thriving out of public view—we were unable to answer either of those queries. However, if homeowners are not encountering great success gardening with perennials it's most likely because they're not adequately preparing the soil *before* the plants are placed in the garden.

Hundreds of kinds of perennial plants can thrive in Colorado's climate. They come to us, basically, from two horticultural traditions: those that arrived from European gardens then the gardens of eastern United States, through our primarily English gardening history, and those that are coming through the emerging "regional" landscape concept.

The former are well known by experience and are well represented in gardening literature. The latter are often less familiar and seem to be entering our horticulture through several related movements: xeriscaping, native plantscaping and rock gardening. Being perennials, however, they have in common a relative permanence. By definition they live in the same spot—the same soil—for many years. And perennials need *good* soil. Anything that needs to be done to that soil to make it good has to be done before the plants go in.

Giving supplemental water to our garden mesophytes (plants that love a medium amount of water) has become second nature to us, in spite of the fact that a "medium" amount is far more than we have in this part of the country. But there's general misconception that plants used in xeriscapes, native plants from surrounding mesas and plains, and some rock garden plants don't need supplemental watering, too.



The community garden season opens March 31.

In fact *any* plant, even one that loves water, may be suitable for a xeriscape—as long as it is used in a manner that allows you to spend a minimum of water to keep it healthy. And even plants tolerant of very little water, newly planted, need more than our usual precipitation in order to become established. Establishing them may take a couple of growing seasons.

The most efficient way to make adequate water (and nutrients and air) available for perennial plants—in any kind of planting—is to increase the moisture holding capacity of the soil. This is best done by incorporating partially decomposed vegetable matter in the soil. Compost, leaves, sawdust, woodchips, old manures, hay, straw, peat moss, kitchen scraps—nearly any plant residue will work. In general our soils are chemically rich. Only a handful of the nutrients needed for good plant growth are ever found seriously lacking, and then only in certain localities.

But a chemically rich soil is not necessarily a good soil for most perennials. It must also contain copious amounts of organic particles. Think of the deep, black soils of the tall grass prairies (before modern farming techniques flushed them into the Gulf of

Mexico). Or consider the wonderful meadows created behind collapsed beaver dams. To create similar soils in your yard, you'll find it impossible to add too much decaying vegetable matter to our native urban soils.

So, if you are among the Front Range homeowners who are switching so rapidly to perennial plants, take the first step toward success before you put them in the ground. Dig, and dig deep, to mix plenty of organic matter into the soil.

Larry Latta is DBG horticulture information specialist, education department.

Update

Native Seeds/SEARCH, mentioned in this column in the January *Green Thumb News*, has a new address: 2509 N. Campbell Avenue, #325, Tucson, Arizona 85719.

MAR

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies

A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a **general** indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switchboard during business hours at 331-4000.

African Violet Society, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society**, 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society**, 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club**, 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society**, 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers**, 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society**, 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International**, 4th Fri.; **Iris Society**, spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club**, 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society**, 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society**, 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society**, 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club**, 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society**, 2nd Sun. of 5 months.

C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
							Winter Botany
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
					Rock Garden Society Symposium	Rock Garden Society Symposium & Sale	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
						Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale, Rose Pruning Workshop	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale						African Violet Show and Sale, Volunteer Fair, Guide Training*	
Coming Next Month							
April 1 African Violet Show and Sale, Chatfield Arboretum opens to public	April 3 Beginning Copperplate Calligraphy*	April 4 New Members' Party, Basic Pool Construction	April 5 Search for our Botanical Legacy, Beginning Bonsai*	April 7 Rose Symposium, Ukranian Easter Eggs, Beginning Ikebana Lessons*, Summer Bulbs*	April 14 Free Day, Japanese Tea Ceremony, April 19 Members' Meeting and Dinner	April 21 Earth Day activities, Plant Life Field Trip, Case of the African Violet April 22 Earth Day activities, Japanese Tea Ceremony	

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.

909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
303-331-4000

Address correction requested

TIME VALUE

March 1990



Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 205
Denver, CO

DBG Celebrates Earth Day Throughout April

Celebrate the 20th anniversary of Earth Day this month with Denver Botanic Gardens!

Special classes, field trips, family activities and demonstrations at the York Street facility and at Chatfield Arboretum have been planned.

On April 22, 1970, the original Earth Day consisted mainly of environmental teach-ins at colleges throughout America. Twenty years later there are now hundreds of environmental groups dedicated to promoting wise environmental practices throughout the world.

Activities at York Street

From April 3 to 30, visitors to the lobby court can view "Diversity Endangered," a poster exhibition from the Smithsonian Institution. This display of 15 panels captures the delicate beauty and variety of life on earth and presents some of the issues surrounding its survival. A hand-out describing follow-up activities will be available and visitors should consider signing the "Earth Day 1990 Pledge" acknowledging their individual commitments to current environmental issues.

Lobby court visitors will be greeted once again by the raucous welcoming calls of Leon, our guest sulphur-crested cockatoo from the Denver Zoo. A native of Sumba, Indonesia, he will be at the Gardens from Tuesday, April 3, until Tuesday, April 24.

A series of six field trips will acquaint participants with the wealth of biological diversity found in the metropolitan Denver area. See early spring wildflowers at Red Rocks Park, explore Chatfield Arboretum and the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, and bicycle the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt. Details on these trips are in the education section of this newsletter.

On Earth Day, Sunday, April 22, afternoon visitors to the Gardens may attend free tours. At 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. guides will meet participants in the lobby court for hour-long tours of either the conservatory or the outdoor grounds. The native plantings of the plains garden, xeriscape garden and wingsong garden will be emphasized on the outdoor tour; conservatory tours will stress rain forest ecology.

Activities at Chatfield Arboretum

Celebrate Earth Day, Arbor Day, and the official grand opening of Chatfield Arboretum on Sunday, April 22, at 1:30 p.m. A week of Arbor Day Festival activities will precede the grand opening celebration.

Admission to the arboretum will be without charge on Saturday and Sunday, April 21 and 22. Free tree seed-

Green Thumb



NEWS

Denver Botanic Gardens
April 1990
Number 90-4



lings will be given to each visitor who brings old newspapers, cans and bottles for recycling between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Volunteers are needed to help plant 2,000 tree seedlings at the arboretum on Saturday, April 21. Please call 973-3710 if you are interested.

Demonstrations on planting and caring for your trees will be conducted throughout Sunday. Skilled craftsmen will demonstrate arts and crafts that use renewable resources. You can make a wooden whistle, spin wool, weave a simple basket, tie a friendship bracelet, build an easy bird feeder, construct a bent willow chair, collect and make maple sugar, make bat houses, watch bees make honey,

cook on a solar grill, and observe wildlife.

Mrs. Greg Brown, the state conservation and legislative chairman of the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, wrote recently in their newsletter *The Gardener*, "We all have a different 'awakening point' at which we became aware of our role in preserving the resources of this planet and begin to examine our role in this preservation."

Whether you have just reached your awakening point or have already adopted a role in preservation, you will want to celebrate Earth Day at the Gardens by learning more about the plants and animals of our planet: Join the Earth Day classes, field trips and special activities in April!

Inside:

Annual Members' Meeting and Dinner
page 2

Rose Symposium
page 2

1990 Plant and Used Book Sale
page 3

"Rocky Mountain National Park: Search for Our Botanical Legacy"
page 4

Pre-school Guides
page 10

Choices everywhere at the May 11&12 Plant and Used Book Sale.

Volunteer to help in the outside gardens.



Volunteers Needed Outdoors Spring Through Fall

The outside gardening staff needs enthusiastic volunteers to assist in the installation and care of the Gardens' plantings. If you enjoy planting, weeding and pruning and would like to work from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. join them any Tuesday or Wednesday, beginning April 10. They will meet in the blue and tan service building located west of the service entrance at 11th Avenue and Gaylord Street. (Do not enter through this entrance but, instead, use the York Street entrance.) Please wear appropriate gardening clothes and bring gloves, hand pruners and a trowel.

April and May Gardening Activities:

Weather permitting, you will be planting roses, perennials, annuals and vegetables. The following Thursday of each week is scheduled as a rain date. Contact Loddie Dolinski at 331-4000, Ext. 40, for more information.

Ed Connors presents "Glorious Italian Gardens ... Roman Times to the 20th Century" at annual dinner.

Members Invited to Yellowstone National Park Lecture

A slide presentation on the 1988 Yellowstone National Park fires and a discussion of the possible reintroduction of wolves to the park will be presented in John C. Mitchell II Hall on Tuesday, April 10, at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Norman Bishop, research interpreter for the park, is the speaker; he will welcome a question and answer period after his talk. A cash bar reception and hors d'oeuvres will follow.

The event is sponsored by the Garden Club of Denver and the Perennial Garden Club. Denver Botanic Gardens members are invited to attend without charge but reservations are required due to the limited seating. Reply by April 3 to either 333-0958 or 771-5842.

Rose Symposium for Front Range Gardeners

What are the basics of growing roses in Denver? Do they differ from the basics in Indiana? The Front Range Rose Society knows the answers and they will share their knowledge on Saturday, April 7, from 9:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at their Rose Symposium in John C. Mitchell II Hall.

Topics for discussion include soil preparation, building a rose bed, fertilization, biological control of pests and diseases, mulching and watering. Rose varieties appropriate for our region will be listed. Organic fertilizer and other rose-related items will be sold, and educational displays will be set up in the hall.

The public is invited to attend. There is no charge for members. Non-members need only pay the gate admission.

Reminder: "Glorious Italian Gardens ... Roman Times to the 20th Century" April 19

"Glorious Italian Gardens ... Roman Times to the 20th Century" and a glorious time at Denver Botanic Gardens on Thursday, April 19, combine to create "An Italian Night at the Gardens."

This memorable evening will be complete with a robust Italian meal and a slide tour of some elegant gardens of Italy. Mr. Edward P. Connors, former president of the Board of Trustees (1985-1987), will present this lecture and travel tour at the members' dinner and meeting. The event is open to all members of the Gardens. The formal announcement was on page three in the March *Green Thumb News*.



Green Thumb News Number 90-4 April 1990

Published monthly by the Denver Botanic Gardens education department, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Patricia A. Pachuta and Carolyn Knepp. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in Denver Botanic Gardens. For membership information, please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000, Ext. 22.

Deadlines for this newsletter are: Major news stories, feature material (including photographs or artwork), and short notes are all due not later than March 20 for May, April 20 for June and May 21 for July.

Late material cannot be used. Stories must be typed, double-spaced, preferably on copy paper provided by the editors. Please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20, for details.



Tributes

In honor of Joedy Arnold

Garden Club of Denver

In honor of 35th Anniversary of Pat and Charlie Booth

Edward and Ann Levy

In honor of Ginny Faxon

Crestmoor Park Garden Club

In honor of 50th Anniversary of Morris and Eleanor Judd

Edith M. Sherman

In memory of Hubert Barbe

Martha A. Franks

Greg & Marilyn Joens

Robert & Elizabeth McCoy

Gale Parker

Mary Parker

Peggy L. Reece

Sunday School Class of Bear Creek

Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Waytek & family

Robert & Mabel Whelply

In memory of Mrs. Jean P. Chenoweth

Mr. & Mrs. Walter C. Emery

In memory of Maidee Curry

Beverly Nilsen

In memory of Jean Ann Davis

John & Gloria Falkenberg

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. E.L. DeLand

Mr. & Mrs. Gene H. Thomas

In memory of Caroline Eyler

Susan Rager

In memory of Mrs. L.C. Fulenwider

Mr. & Mrs. F. George Robinson

In memory of Mrs. Charles (Helen) Gordon

Judy and Tom Magee

In memory of Jeff Halladay

Glenn, Sherry, Jennifer & Emily Turner

In memory of Paul Miller

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Knickrehm

In memory of Mrs. Eleanor Collins Spencer

Mr. & Mrs. Walter C. Emery

In memory of Mrs. T.W. (Sally) Wrenn

Denver Botanic Gardens Guild

John & Gloria Falkenberg

Ted & Mary Washburne

A Note from Your Plant and Used Book Sale Chairmen

The Pre-sale Party on May 10, from 5 to 9 p.m., will kick off the festivities for "The Flowering of Denver." The popular party is chaired by Lea Urbana, and might well be subtitled, "We beg your pardon, but we did promise you a rose garden," for one lucky partygoer will win a free garden of roses. Betty Lou Roberts, who chairs our rose division, will select ten classic roses, and the winner will receive a free design and planting. A ticket for the party is \$40 and entitles the patron to unhurried shopping and a buffet supper. The Boticelli String Quartet is back, by popular demand, and will set the tone for a lovely party. For reservations, call the Development Office at 331-4000, Ext. 25.

Members of the Gardens are allowed to shop on Friday morning at 8:30 a.m., one hour before the sale opens to the general public. Members enter through the Gaylord Street gate only, must show their membership card and are not allowed to bring guests.

Plants are, in general, priced by their container size. For example, most annual six-packs are the same price and do not have an individual price tag. Gallons and 2¼-inch pots are also not marked, unless the plant is a specialty, in which case it will have an individual price tag. Terrace baskets, roses, statuary, water plants, trees, shrubs, houseplants, bonsai and specialty plants in every division will be marked individually.

The cashier stations are in the usual places: one at the Gaylord entrance and one at the parking lot of the DBG House at the corner of 9th Avenue and York Street. Norma Linderholm and Pat Sadlowski, with our indomitable expert on vintage adding machines Newell Grant, head the cashiers. Our wonderful volunteers make a valiant effort to keep the lines moving, and you may pay by Visa or MasterCard. There are express lanes for shoppers with ten items or less. We are always happy to accept your old adding machines; please call the development office if you would like to donate one. Volunteers will also assist in loading your plants near the check-out stations—check your purchases at the plant corral, where you will receive a claim check, and they will be guarded while you bring your car around.

Rob Proctor, chairman, and Jane Davis, co-chairman, 1990 Plant and Used Book Sale



The Plant and Used Book Sale has something for everyone.

Emerson R. Birchfield, on "The Scented Garden"

Have we all taken leave of our senses—or, at least, our sense of smell? In days past it seemed as if a garden was a treat for the nose as well as the eye. Too many gardens I visit today are lovely but scentless. The scent of a flower is, like the color, a matter for the individual to judge. I take delight in bowls of paper-whites in the winter, but some are not as thrilled. To me, the smell of paper-whites conjures images of paradise, angels and the like, whereas my neighbors have been so ungracious as to liken them to dirty socks. Beauty may well be in the nose of the beholder as well as the eye.

With that in mind, permit me to list a few of the selections available at "The Flowering of Denver," the 41st Plant and Used Book Sale on May 11 and 12. No flower can compete in the fragrance category with a good rose. Betty Lou Roberts, who heads this division, continues to feature some of the classics.

On the subject of roses, one of the most charming rose gardens I've seen had a carpet of sweet allysum (properly *Lobularia maritima*) at its feet. This shallow-rooted annual was allowed to reseed each year and produced a tapestry of white, pink and lavender among the roses. We forget about the pleasures of this unassuming old-fashioned annual. Planted in masses, the fragrance of sweet allysum goes along way in evoking the quaint charm of bygone days in the garden. I grew up with its scent, when gardeners weren't quite so involved in creating floral fireworks that need to be seen from hovering aircraft to be truly appreciated.

Scented plants for the rock garden include species and cultivars of shrubby daphne and many kinds of dianthus. They have been cherished at least as far back as the days of the ancient Greeks; they wove them into garlands for their athletic champions. Long ago species of dianthus were used to flavor wine and ale, and were known as sops-in-wine. We cherish them today for their spicy clove perfume and charming flowers with edges that appear to have been "pinked." The rock/alpine division is ably steered by Lynda Goldstein and Kathy Borgen.

Does anyone recall the days when a newly-made bed smelled, not of fabric softener, but of lavender? I suppose there may be some who actually like that April-fresh smell, but I can't imagine they have ever placed sprigs of lavender in their linen closet. Stretching out on those sweetly-scented sheets must be the ultimate in luxury, and all it requires is a trip to the herb division, chaired by Barbara Moore. English lavender, *Lavandula angustifolia*, is hardy when grown in a well-drained soil, while French lavender, *Lavandula dentata*, is grown as an annual. I tie bunches of many herbs and hang them in my sweater cupboard. One that I find effective is lavender cotton, *Santolina chamaecyparissus*, which deters moths with its cedar-like scent, and I much prefer the smell of it to that of moth balls.

(Emerson R. Birchfield is our special correspondent for "The Flowering of Denver." He usually has a dried sprig of herbs clinging to his sweater or tweed jacket, but we pretend not to notice. We do notice there are no moth holes in his clothes, and he smells great.)

Loraine Yeatts and Rocky Mountain National Park

Rocky Mountain National Park has come to mean many things to many people in the past 75 years. It provides vacation opportunities for families from all over the country, trails for hikers, natural history for photographers and students, and refuges for wildflowers.

On Thursday, April 5, Denver Botanic Gardens will help commemorate the 75th anniversary of the park by presenting well-known Colorado nature photographer and field botanist Loraine Yeatts and her slide program at the Gardens titled "Rocky Mountain National Park: Search for Our Botanical Legacy."

Loraine Yeatts

Mrs. Yeatts is the project coordinator for a botanical inventory of Rocky Mountain National Park and also volunteers at the Gardens' herbarium. She was the speaker for the 1987 Carl Tempel Wildflower Lecture and has presented many other



popular programs at the Gardens. These presentations reveal her remarkable knowledge of the camera and of Colorado's flora.

You are encouraged to attend this

fascinating and enlightening presentation of our native flora, at 7:30 p.m. in John C. Mitchell II Hall. Admission to the lecture is \$6 for members and \$7 for non-members. For more information call 331-4000, Ext. 20.

Wildflower Weekend on the Western Slope June 16-17

Join DBG Acting Director Andrew Pierce on a leisurely weekend trip to Rocky Mountain National Park on June 16-17. This is an ideal time to see grassy glades full of blooming columbines; rushing streams may be lined with Parry primroses and chiming bells; and meadows of arnicas, larkspurs and penstemons. The group may even locate wild orchids hidden among tall conifers. Although this trip includes only short, easy walks, participants should be comfortable at high altitudes.

A small, 25-passenger bus will leave the Gardens promptly at 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 16, to return Sunday at 6 p.m. Travel over Berthoud Pass, occasionally stopping to see plant communities along the way. Hotels rooms have been reserved at The Western Riviera on Grand Lake, near the southwest edge of the park.

The member fee of \$140 (double occupancy) includes hotel accommodations Saturday evening; two box lunches; bus travel; and park entrance fee. You're on your own for breakfast and dinner and several restaurants are within close walking distance of the hotel. Non-members will be charged \$160.

For additional information, please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20. Enjoy the spectacular beauty of Rocky Mountain National Park as it celebrates its 75th anniversary—the late-spring wildflowers should be at their peak.

Wildflower Weekend Registration Form

Please return this form, with your check made payable to Denver Botanic Gardens, by June 1, 1990 to:

**Wildflower Weekend
Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, CO 80206**

Enclosed is \$_____ for _____ participants.

Registration: DBG members \$140 per person, total _____

Non-members \$160 per person, total _____

Registration fee covers transportation, hotel (double room), two box lunches, and park entrance fee.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Member ID Number _____ (on top line of address label)

Roommate's name (if known) _____

Check here if you wish a roommate: M _____ F _____

Smoking _____ Non-smoking _____ Vegetarian _____

(We regret that no refunds may be made after June 8, unless a replacement is found.)



Vegetable Gardening for Results

(five sessions)

Saturdays, April 28, May 5
(skip May 12), May 19,
May 26 and June 2

1:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Morrison Center (2320 E. 11th Avenue) and Classroom C

This series of vegetable gardening classes will introduce you to organic methods. Register for all or for individual classes.

Soil Preparation

April 28 Morrison Center

Enriching your soil is a critical part of your gardening program. Learn about compost—how to make it and use it—organic methods of fertilization, and double digging techniques of bed construction.

Cole Crops, Lettuce and Other Greens

May 5 Morrison Center

These healthful, easily grown vegetables are especially suited for spring and fall growing conditions. Learn how to grow broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, bok choy, Chinese cabbage and more. Learn to start an assortment of salad greens and how to do succession planting, intercropping and fertilization.

The Tomato and its Relatives

May 19 Classroom C

Tomatoes, peppers and eggplants are all members of the deadly nightshade family. Learn how to select superior varieties for your needs and how to maximize yields. Seed sources for unusual varieties will be provided.

Beyond the May Planting Frenzy

May 26 Morrison Center

This session will focus on appropriate crops for the late-summer-to-fall garden. Many plants respond well to the shortening daylight hours and cooler temperatures.

Putting the Garden to Rest

June 2 Morrison Center

After the harvest prepare your soil for next year and use organic methods to improve it. You will learn about fall tilling, composting, soil enrichment and cover crops to prevent erosion and provide soil aeration. Fall should be the second busiest season of the gardening year!

Instructor: Judy Elliott is an enthusiastic teacher with 15 years of organic gardening experience. She is a master gardener who was recently hired to assist "Dr. Green" at DBG.

Fee: \$10 members/\$12 non-members for single sessions. Entire series is \$44 members/\$48 non-members.

Mushroom Identification

(two sessions)

Saturday, June 2, 9

Classroom C

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and
Optional Field Trips from
1:30 to 3:30 p.m. each day.

This course is for beginners and will provide a foundation for those who may wish to pursue the subject in more depth in the future.

Spring-fruiting mushrooms of the city as well as the summer-fruiting species of the high country will be covered.

Two slide-lecture sessions cover structure, growth, habitat, seasonality, toxicity and edibility of mushrooms. The use of field guides and keys will be demonstrated and recommendations will be given on those most useful in our area. Recommended field guides will be available for purchase.

Handouts will be distributed but students should be prepared to take additional notes. Participants will learn to positively identify more than 20 common edible, non-edible and poisonous mushrooms in addition to helpful collection, cleaning, preparation and cooking hints.

An optional field trip to areas near the Gardens will be scheduled in the afternoon of each session. Those planning to attend should bring a sack lunch. Students should be on the look out for early mushrooms to bring to class for identification.

Instructor: Marilyn Shaw lectures and teaches extensively and has been active in the Colorado Mycological Society for 16 years. Ms. Shaw is a consultant in mushroom identification for DBG and the Rocky Mountain Poison Center.

Fee: \$32 members/\$35 non-members



Explore Chatfield Arboretum

Saturday, April 14

10 a.m. to noon

Located to the southwest of metropolitan Denver is a natural jewel beginning to glow. Another of our urban treasures, the arboretum consists of trails through wetlands and a streamside riparian community (Deer Creek), a historic farm and foothills plant communities. The wetlands have attracted various animals. Expect to see waterfowl, nesting owls and grazing deer.

Early spring flowers will be at their best. The region is lush with chokecherry, wild clematis and more. Wetland flowers will also be blooming.

Wear sturdy walking shoes, and dress for changes in the weather. Take drinking water, camera and binoculars if you wish. Plan to stay after the walk and enjoy your lunch at the picnic area.

Meet: at the Visitor Center (the schoolhouse) of Chatfield Arboretum promptly at 10 a.m.

Leader: Two of Chatfield Arboretum's highly trained guides will share their knowledge of the arboretum with you on this trip.

Fee: \$4 members/\$5 non-members

Limit: 20



Rocky Mountain Arsenal Field Trip

(one session)

Saturday, April 14

10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Learn about the history of Rocky Mountain Arsenal and the current plans for cleaning up the contamination from past production and storage of weapons and chemicals. See how this 27-square mile island in a sea of civilization is coming to life with bald and golden eagles guarding the skies. Expect to see hawks, coyotes, prairie dogs, mule and white-tailed deer. Part of Earth Day awareness, participants will gain a new appreciation of the spirit and resilience of our natural environment—when assisted by concerned people. The trip will include a stop at the new visitor's center.

There is no charge for this field trip but advance reservations **must** be made through the education department. Call 331-4000, Ext. 20, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Meet: shortly before 10:30 a.m. at the west gate at 72nd Avenue and Quebec Street in Commerce City. A bus will meet you and take you into the arsenal. No private cars will be allowed on the grounds.

Instructor: A park ranger or wildlife biologist from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will lead this tour.

Fee: No charge but advance reservations are required.

Limit: 25



Beginning Bird Watching

(three sessions)

Wednesdays, April 11, 18, 25

10:00 a.m. to noon

Polly Steele Nature Center at Chatfield Arboretum

Come join one of the most popular activities enjoyed by outdoor enthusiasts. *continued on page 6*

CTA SITES

Spring
1990
Denver Botanic Gardens



continued from page 5

thusiasts. You will learn to recognize birds by their calls, flight patterns and markings. After a short introductory classroom discussion you will search the fields and wooded areas of the arboretum for new bird residents. Please come dressed for the weather conditions of the day. Remember April mornings can be windy and cool.

Instructor: Ann Bonnell is an experienced birder. She is a member of the Tuesday Birders, the Denver Audubon Society, and the Denver Field Ornithologists.

Fee: \$25 members/\$28 non-members (includes \$1 for materials)

Limit: 12



Plant Life Field Trip: Red Rocks Park

Section I: Wednesday, April 18
Section II: Saturday, April 21

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

This is an opportunity to observe some of the delightful early spring wildflowers of Red Rocks Park. Sagebrush buttercups, Easter daisies, spring-beauties, Oregon grapes and some of the mustards should all be in flower. Bring a lunch.

Leaders: Peter Root is an amateur botanist who volunteers regularly at the Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium at DBG. He is also a volunteer naturalist at Roxborough State Park. Mary Edwards is an enthusiastic botanist who volunteers in the herbarium and has led many DBG field trips.

Meet: At 9 a.m. in the main parking lot of Denver Botanic Gardens to carpool and share gasoline expenses, or call 331-4000, Ext. 20 for directions.

Fee: \$2 per person



Wheat Ridge Greenbelt Bicycle Trip

Saturday, April 21

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Denver area is fortunate to have incredible wildlife and natural areas. Many of the drainages flowing out of the mountains create intriguing communities, and these riparian retreats provide trained observers with delightful surprises.

This field trip is part of Earth Day activities. You can park your car at (or ride your bike to) Prospect Park off of West 44th between Youngfield and Kipling and then ride your bike to explore the Clear Creek drainage.

Everyone will meet and then bicycle along the pathway in this riparian habitat framed by the large cotton-

wood trees of Clear Creek. Early to mid-spring wildflowers will be plentiful.

Any bike will do. Pack a lunch and beverage to carry. Bring your binoculars.

Meet: Prospect Park, 11400 West 44th Avenue (between Youngfield and Kipling), on the bridge over Clear Creek on the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt. If you drive you can leave your car in the parking lot and ride your bike to the bridge.

Instructor: Paul D. Kilburn, Ph.D., has taught botany and ecology in Illinois and Colorado for many years.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 12



Ecology and Flora of North Table Mountain Field Trip

Saturday, May 26

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Explore this natural history gem and its wide variety of grassland and shrub plant communities, geology and wildlife. See stands of mountain mahogany, snowberry, skunkbush, chokecherry, mountain maple, lichens and the abundant spring flowers of the foothills.

Bring your lunch and drinking water. If you have wildflower or bird guides bring those also.

Meet: promptly at 10 a.m., 1.8 miles north of Highway 58 (Golden) on the east side of Highway 93 at the gravel road by a small cottage.

Instructor: Paul Kilburn, Ph.D.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 20



Introduction to Rocky Mountain Xeriscape

Wednesday, May 2

7 to 9:30 p.m.

Classroom C

Xeriscape—what it looks like (it's not cactus and gravel), what it costs (and what it doesn't cost) and how to plan (and plant) it—this introduction addresses these topics.

This is not a design class, but an excellent introduction to principles of dryland gardening.

A demonstration of the site planning process and a slide-illustrated lecture will complete the class and help direct you into the world of low water bills and an attractive yard. Time will be provided for questions.

Instructor: Jim Knopf is a landscape architect who has designed many

local residential landscapes with low-water demand plants. He is the author of *Edible & Useful Wildplants of the Urban West* and has extensive teaching experience.

Fee: \$10 members/\$12 non-members



Planning Your Home Landscape—I

(two sessions)

Saturdays, April 14 and 28

1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

**Visitor Center at Chatfield
Arboretum**

During the first session you will survey basic design principles and the processes for developing and building a landscape that suits your needs. Such topics as size analysis, circulation planning, microclimates, grading, drainage, paving, patios, irrigation systems and ecology will be covered, as well as plant material: trees, shrubs, groundcovers, lawns, native grasses and flowers.

You will develop a design project during the two weeks between the first and second class session. Your master landscape plan can then be your own home or another project of your choice.

Instructor: Thomas L. Stephens is a practicing landscape architect with more than 25 years as a professional designer. He has been teaching home landscape design for 19 years.

Fee: \$46 members/\$50 non-members (includes \$14 for materials)

Limit: 20



Planning Your Home Landscape—II

(two sessions)

Saturdays, May 12 and 19

1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

**Visitor Center at Chatfield
Arboretum**

This class is a second level of study for students who have previously taken Mr. Stephens' Landscaping I course. The course consists of a quick review of the status of student projects; cost analysis procedures; new and updated information on construction, plants, flowers and lawns; and additional information on plant and lawn maintenance procedures.

A field trip to local landscape projects of interest and to local nurseries will be a part of the course.

Instructor: Thomas L. Stephens

Fee: \$46 members/\$50 non-members (includes \$14 for materials)

Limit: 20

The Board of Trustees of Denver Botanic Gardens invites you to



"The Flowering of Denver"

*Pre-Sale Party
for the
41st Annual Plant
and Used Book Sale*

*Thursday, May 10, 1990
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.*

*at
Denver Botanic Gardens*

*Buffet by Panache
Music by the Boticelli
String Quartet
Free Drawing for the 1990 Rose Garden*

*Cash Bar Casual Dress
\$40 Per Person
(\$25 tax-deductible donation)*

____ Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ for _____ reservations.

____ I cannot attend, but enclosed is my tax deductible contribution of \$ _____

Names(s) _____

Address _____

State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Mail to: Ms. Lee Clayton
Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206

*Reservations a must!
Reservation deadline - May 4, 1990
Please make checks payable to: Denver Botanic Gardens*

Wildflowers of the Plains Field Trip

Saturday, May 12
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This spring field trip to the edge of the prairie at Plainview is an opportunity to observe the spring flora of this area in its full glory. See the Rocky Mountain wallflower, bluemist penstemon, Easter daisy, spring beauty, pasqueflower and many others.

Bring your lunch and drinking water. If you have wildflower field guides and a hand lens, they will be useful.

Meet: promptly at 10 a.m. at the junction of Highways 93 and 72 between Boulder and Golden in the parking lot at the southeast corner of the intersection.

Instructor: Paul Kilburn, Ph.D.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 20



Garden Railway Design

Saturdays, May 5 and 19

1 to 3:30 p.m. Classroom C

Learn how to create a xeriscape garden with the Santa Fe line running through a miniature landscape in your own backyard, or the Southern Pacific in your rock garden.

These undertakings require neither a large space nor a large budget. Learn which plants make effective miniature trees, which plants provide year-round interest and where to go for your plant material. Learn how to place the tracks and where to go for guidance.

The first meeting of this two-session class will explore the basics. The second session will discuss some basics again but will take you to actual gardens with model railways and miniature landscapes, each distinctly different from the other.

Instructor: Barbara Horovitz operates a garden railway in Denver with her husband. She is a member of the Denver Garden Railway Association and they publish the bimonthly *Garden Railways Magazine* (available in the Helen Fowler Library). She has recently written an article on garden railways for *Fine Gardening* (available in the Helen Fowler Library). Her enthusiasm for this hobby has helped the development of garden railroading revival in the Denver area and the United States.

Fee: \$20 members/\$24 non-members



The Aquatic Garden: Water Gardening Basics

(two sessions)

Wednesdays, April 11, 18

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classroom C

Know that your first adventure into water gardening will be a colorful success. This instructor will prepare you with appropriate varieties and how-to's for cultivation and display. His slide-assisted presentation will highlight water lilies, water lotuses and bog plants. The emphasis will be on "putting it all together." You will also receive information on sources, how to prepare a barrel garden and a tour of the DBG greenhouse.

Instructor: Joe Tomocik

Fee: \$16 member/\$18 non-members



The Aquatic Garden: Basic Pool Construction

Wednesday, April 4

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classroom C

Backyard gardeners and do-it-yourselfers will learn how to install their own pools, from start to finish. Included will be site selection and design considerations as well as how to use various membrane liners, including PVC and Hypalon. Although the main emphasis will be on these materials, the pros and cons of concrete and urea resin will also be discussed.

Instructor: John B. Mirgon

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members



The Secrets of Summer Bulbs

Saturday, April 7

1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Classroom C

Many species of hardy and tender bulbs put on an impressive show in Colorado gardens. Learn the secrets of incorporating summer bulbs into your landscape. By planting Asiatic, Aurelian and Oriental hybrid lilies, you can achieve a continuous display from June to October. Cannas, dahlias, gladiolus and tuberoses can be added to the perennial border or grown in a cutting garden. Unusual bulbs such as hymenocallis (Peruvian daffodil), tigridia (Mexican shell flower), Ixia (Africa bells), and galtonia (summer hyacinth) add an exotic touch. Many summer bulbs can be grown in containers. The keys to successful growing will be discussed, as well as sources for unusual species.

Instructor: Rob Proctor is a popular instructor at DBG, as well as Chairman of "The Flowering of Denver," the Plant and Used Book Sale in May. His Capitol Hill garden features over 400 varieties of hybrid lilies and an ever-changing assortment of summer bulbs.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

Rock Alpine Garden Walk 7

Thursdays, May 17

Section I: 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Section II: 5:00 to 6:00 pm.

Alpine House

Tour the world-famous Rock Alpine Garden at the peak of its season. Many of the choice plants of this Garden have been donated by visitors from all over the world and many are found in Colorado's own Rocky Mountains. You can also see which plants will add color throughout the summer and which provide foliage color through the winter.

Instructor: Panayoti Kelaidis is curator of the Gardens' award-winning Rock Alpine Garden and is an enthusiastic teacher who enjoys sharing discoveries gleaned from his ten years at the Gardens.

Fee: \$4 members/\$4.50 non-members

Limit: 20



Beyond Marigolds—A Palette of Annuals

(two sessions)

Thursdays, April 12 and 19

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom C

In Colorado we have the perfect climate for growing the brightest, most beautiful annuals. But we don't grow nearly the variety we could! Beyond the old friends—petunias, alyssums and marigolds—lies a whole world of other gems waiting to be discovered, planted and grown.

Meet some of these lesser-known annuals—for sun, drought, shade, fragrance, cutting and drying, for all situations and tastes. Learn where to get them, how to grow them and how to combine them creatively with each other and with other plants. You will be ready for your most colorful, flower-filled summer yet.

Instructor: Lauren Springer studied horticulture at Penn State University. She is an experienced teacher who has gardened in England, Ireland, the Midwest and Colorado. Her article, "Fall Favorites" was published this past fall in *Fine Gardening*.

Fee: \$16 members/\$18 non-members



Foliage in the Garden: Color, Form and Texture

(three sessions)

Thursdays, May 17, 24, 31

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom B

An effectively designed garden looks good throughout the year. We
continued on page 8

continued from page 7

can only accomplish this by using attractive foliage of both woody and herbaceous plants, not by depending solely on flowers. Foliage adds form, color and texture to a garden at times and in ways that flowers can't. Come find out what plants will give your garden a framework and lasting beauty, and learn ways to combine the colors, forms and texture of these plants to create garden pictures of subtle harmony, as well as strong, vivid contrast.

Instructor: Lauren Springer

Fee: \$24 members/\$28 non-members



Herbs in the Garden

Thursday, April 26

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Morrison Center at Denver Botanic Gardens

Most gardeners don't have the time or space for an elaborate herb garden. But this isn't a problem; it can be an exciting design challenge. Many herbs are beautiful as well as useful, and can be combined very effectively with other plants in the garden. Learn about growing herbs that add texture, color, form and fragrance to your garden, and how to incorporate them artistically with annuals, perennials, shrubs and roses.

Instructor: Lauren Springer

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members



Lilacs for Our Gardens

(one session)

Sunday, May 20

1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Classroom C

"Romance is in the very word 'lilac,'" writes Alice Harding in *Lilacs in my Garden*. Learn which ones grow well in Colorado, how to prune them and where to go for emotional support when a late frost nips their buds. Then, stroll outside to discuss and enjoy the spring bloom of the Gardens' lilac collection of over 100 kinds.

Instructor: Julie Dulapa studied education and horticulture and has assisted with research and renovation of our lilac display.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

Limit: 20



Beginning Bonsai

(four sessions)

Thursdays, April 5, 12, 19, 26

7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Classroom B

This popular introductory course will cover the history and cultural techniques of bonsai. Instruction on

styling, training, potting and care of bonsai will be included. Each student will take a completed bonsai home, and all materials will be provided.

Instructors: Keith Jeppson, past president of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society, is an experienced bonsai hobbyist of 17 years. Harold Sasaki is a commercial bonsai grower with 18 years of experience. Both are lively, capable and popular teachers.

Fee: \$54 members/\$59 non-members (includes \$22 for materials)

Limit: 16



Japanese Garden Promenade

Section I: Sunday, May 20

Section II: Sunday, May 27

1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Japanese Garden

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Shofu-en, the Garden of Pine Wind, is a classic *Chisen-Kaiyushiki* (wet garden with promenade) design. Gracing the northwest corner of the Gardens, its tranquility offers a retreat to visitors and staff. Learn more about the plants used, the construction of the tea house and the symbolism associated with almost every feature of this lovely Garden.

Meet: on the bridge to the south of the Japanese garden. The walk will begin promptly at 1 p.m.

Instructor: Harold Sasaki

Fee: \$4 members/\$4.50 non-members

Limit: 20



The Case of the African Violet

Saturday, April 21

9:30 a.m. to noon

Classroom B

This is a class for enthusiasts who want or need information on the basics of African violet care: lighting, feeding, watering, temperature control, cleaning, soils, pests, propagation and more.

Bring a couple of your African violets to this class and learn why they won't grow—or why they have grown so tall. Learn the art of leaf propagation and how to separate "babies."

You need only bring a clean, sharp knife and, if you wish, a pest-free plant or two from your own collection. The instructor will provide cuttings.

Instructor: Debbie Griffith has been growing African violets for 12 years. She is currently president of the

Rocky Mountain African Violet Council and a senior show judge. She has taught many workshops and has helped other enthusiasts understand their plants.

Fee: \$13 members/\$16 non-members

Limit: 20



Herb Garden in a Dish

Saturday, May 19

1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Morrison Center (2320 East 11th Avenue)

What looks like a carefully designed bonsai planting but is in fact a culinary resource? It's Steve Wild's herb garden in a dish.

Actually planted in a large saucer, a typical garden consists of geranium "trees" and "bushes" surrounded by a ground cover of creeping thyme.

Make a garden of your own to take home. Each participant will receive step-by-step construction directions and instructions for maintaining it. Each dish garden weighs approximately 30 pounds; the class will meet in the Morrison Center to make transporting your garden from class to car easier. Several weeks before the class begins a mature dish garden will be displayed in the Gardens' library.

Instructor: Steve Wild studied horticulture at CSU. He owns and operates Peep O'Day Herb Garden in Loveland. His tabletop herb garden was featured in the October/November 1989 issue of *The Herb Companion*.

Fee: \$52 members/\$56 non-members (includes \$40 for materials)

Limit: 15



Ukrainian Easter Eggs

(one session)

Saturday, April 7

12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Morrison Center at Denver Botanic Gardens

Ukrainian Easter egg decorating, or *pysanky*, is a centuries-old technique for creating intricate and brilliantly colored patterns on eggs. The process is similar to that used in batik: designs are drawn with molten wax and are over-dyed.

Please bring rubber gloves and three or more uncooked, crack-free, large white eggs to class; all other materials will be provided.

Instructor: Peggy Johnson studied art education at the University of Wyoming and has extensive teaching experience.

Fee: \$22.50 members/\$24 non-members (includes \$8.50 for materials and a

small, basic kit to take home)

Limit: 20



Beginning Ikebana Lessons

(four sessions)

Saturdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Morrison Center at Denver Botanic Gardens

In this introductory course students will view slides and gain a preliminary understanding of four schools of arranging: Ikenobo, Chiko, Ohara and Sogetsu. They will practice and take home beginning efforts at light, airy arrangements of spring flowers such as irises and pussy willows.

Please bring the following materials to class: round or rectangular ceramic container (no smaller than 12 inches long and two inches deep), two needle-point flower holders (one that is two inches wide and one that is three inches wide or larger), sharp clippers, small bucket (or other container to hold flowers and water) and notebook.

Although flowers will be provided, students should bring their own line material (branches) cut from their yards.

Instructor: Joan Wooldridge is past president of Ikebana International and has teacher's certification in two schools of design.

Fee: \$44 members/\$47 non-members (includes \$12 for flowers)

Limit: 12



Japanese Tea Ceremony

(one session)

Section I: Saturday, April 14

Section II: Sunday, April 22
Section III: Sunday, May 13
Section IV: Saturday, May 19
Section V: Sunday, June 3
Section VI: Saturday, June 16
Section VII: Sunday, June 17

2 to 3 p.m.
Tea House in the Japanese Garden

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Because of its emphasis on such concepts as harmony, respect, purity, tranquility and elegant simplicity, the tea ceremony has for centuries been considered the epitome of Japanese life. This is an opportunity to experience an authentic tea ceremony in the quiet splendor of our Japanese garden.

Instructor: Kathryn Kawakami has done much to inform Denver-area residents and students about the culture of Japan.

Fee: \$4.50 members/\$5 non-members

Limit: 15



Watercolor Painting

(five sessions)

Wednesdays, April 11, 18, 25
May 2, 9

Section I: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Section II: 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Mondays, April 9, 16, 23, 30
May 7

Section III: 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Classroom B

Please indicate your section on your registration form.

Explore the sparkle and delicacy of watercolor painting while enjoying the natural setting of Denver Botanic Gardens. This course will cover the basic materials and techniques with the emphasis on freedom of personal expression.

Come prepared with supplies. You'll need: one-inch flat brush, #10 round brush, watercolor paper, tissues, container for water, plastic palette and cake or tube watercolors.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky currently teaches art history, watercolor painting and oil painting at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design and he displays his work at Inkfish Art Gallery. He is a graduate of the University of Kharkov, U.S.S.R.

Fee: \$60 members/\$66 non-members

Limit: 15



Natural Style Flower Arranging for Spring

Tuesday, May 22
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Classroom B

Create a special floral arrangement that reflects the delicate yet lively flowers of spring. Students are encouraged to bring whatever personal materials they may have to add even more interest and variety to their work.

Please bring your own containers and flower snips as well as a container (a small bucket is perfect) for holding water and flowers when cutting materials. A piece of floral foam or a needle-point flower holder and wire cutters or pruning shears will also be useful. Some flowers will be cut from the Gardens, and others will be purchased and provided for you. Please bring a sack lunch to class.

Instructor: An experienced floral designer and teacher, Julia Dobbins has studied floral arranging extensively both in the United States and England.

Fee: \$31 members/\$35 non-members (includes \$15 for flowers)

Limit: 12

Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
Fees for courses should be paid in advance by charge, check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your payment is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

Enclosed is _____ to cover the registration fees for the following classes:

Name and section of class(es) _____

Name _____

Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Member ID _____

(on top line of newsletter address label)

Address _____

City _____ ZIP code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐

_____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

Begin Training as a Pre-school Guide May 15

Gardens are full of mystery and adventure; bees buzz low and fly heavy in search of hidden treasures while butterflies skip and flutter from one flower to the next in search of gems. Deep beneath the canopy of the flower garden heavy slugs plod along like trolls and worms tunnel through the underground like pieces of heavy equipment.

Some children are unable to experience the adventures that await them in the gardens and, unfortunately, miss the joys that gave many of us our fond memories. Denver Botanic Gardens offers opportunities for young children to explore a garden from a sensory perspective. The Pre-school

Books are still needed for the Plant and Used Book Sale. Call 331-4000, Ext. 32.



Work with Snappy the Scarecrow to lead pre-school tours.

Tour Program is designed to ignite the imagination of 3-, 4- and 5-year-olds.

Training for pre-school guides begins May 15 at 9 a.m. in the Morrison Center of the Gardens. New guides are sought for this growing guiding activity. You need only have an understanding of young children, the willingness to work with them and some knowledge of a garden.

Each tour begins with an animated introduction of the garden at the Morrison Center. Puppets, including Snappy the Scarecrow, talk about the plants and life found in and around the flowers. Following this brief puppet introduction, the children and guides proceed to explore.

Four classes will meet on Tuesdays; they will end June 15. Each is three hours long. The tour season begins June 1 and concludes October 1. You might be asked to lead two to four tours each month of the summer—or more if you wish. For additional information about this volunteer activity call the education department at



331-4000, Ext. 20. Registration is \$10 and covers materials. All you need to do is complete the education department form in this newsletter and mail it to the Gardens. The Morrison Center is located on 11th Avenue between York and Josephine Streets.

Tax Information on Your 1989 Membership and Donations to the Gardens

The IRS requires that all non-profit institutions clarify for their donors and members exactly what portion of their membership and/or donation is tax deductible. The IRS distinguishes between the two.

Any donation you made to the Gardens is fully deductible as long as you received no premiums or benefits in return. Your DBG membership, on the other hand, is not fully deductible if you have taken advantage of any of the benefits: free admission, concert ticket discounts, free plants upon joining and free plants at the members' plant giveaway. The following indicates the amount that is **not** tax deductible for each membership level, assuming you took advantage of all available benefits.

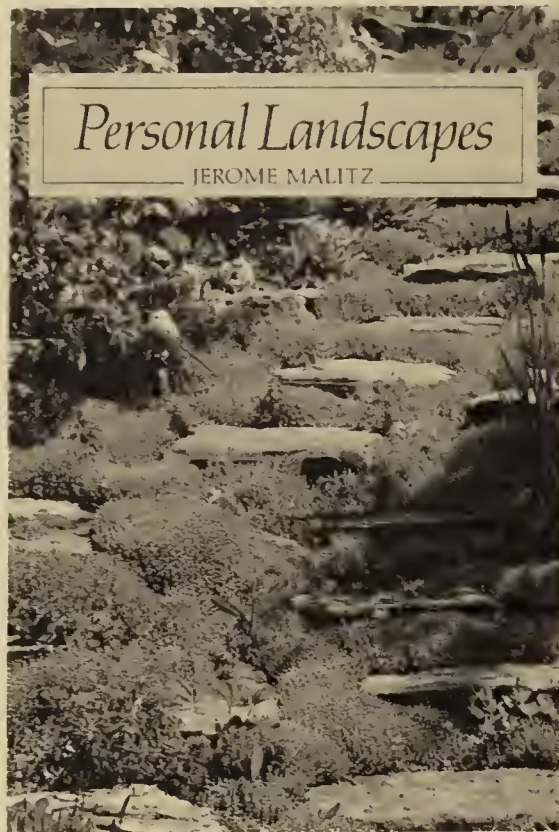
Levels of membership and amounts deductible:	
Student - Family	\$19
Contributing	\$25
Supporting	\$31
Advocate	\$95
Patron	\$101
Four Seasons Affiliate	\$101

Remember, any 10 percent discount you received on a Gift Shop purchase will also affect your taxes—depending on your individual purchases. If you have any questions, please call the membership office at 331-4000, Ext. 22.

Videotapes in the Library

The Helen Fowler Library has recently acquired some videotapes that will interest you. These are available for check out at no charge. This collection is a new source of educational material for members:

Pest Management in the Vegetable Garden.
The Many Worlds of Orchids.
How to Grow and Cook Fresh Herbs.
Christmas Tree Recycling.
Grass.
For the Love of Roses.
Waterwise Gardening: Beautiful Gardens with Less Water.
Banks' Florilegium.
Vanishing Rain Forests.
Our Threatened Heritage.



"Personal Landscapes in Colorado"

"The personal garden is one of the last, great remaining luxuries. Exploding populations, dwindling resources and economic necessities will make it even more so." Author, gardener, mathematics professor and Colorado resident Jerome Malitz recently introduced his new book *Personal Landscapes* with this thought.

On Wednesday, May 23, at 7 p.m. Professor Malitz will present "Personal Landscapes in Colorado—the Agony and the Ecstasy" in John C. Mitchell II Hall.

Dr. Malitz is a lively, opinionated gardener and speaker. In his book he provides philosophical guidance that will appeal to many of the Gardens' members. Advance reservations are encouraged for this lecture. Members pay \$6 and non-members pay \$7 each. If space is available, tickets will be sold at the door. Use the education department registration form in this newsletter.

Gardening: Discovering Three Great Ground Covers

In the Rock Alpine Garden, where I've been privileged to work for ten years, we have attempted to display representative plants from the world's high places. This garden is the only place in our hemisphere where many of these plants are on display. In the process of creating this large work of gardening art certain plants stand out that are so adaptable, so vigorous and so attractive that they have quickly become mainstays of our regional, even national nursery trade. Let's take a look at a handful of perennials that have achieved star status, thanks to Denver Botanic Gardens.

Hardy Ice Plants: Wholesale nurseries in the Denver area are quick to point out that the most successful, profitable and easily mass-produced perennials of the last decade are two tiny ground covers that are unknown in the standard literature of horticulture—the yellow- and purple-flowered hardy ice plants. They had been grown only in a limited fashion by a few rock garden specialty nurseries in the Northwest and Midwest before examples were planted in the DBG Rock Alpine Garden.

The yellow species, *Delosperma nubigenum*, was first planted in the summer of 1980. By spring of 1982 we had propagated, increased and sold it at the annual Plant and Used Book Sale at the Gardens.

What makes this plant so appealing? It has tiny, very succulent leaves that suggest a chubby stonecrop, and it forms such a tight, thick mat that it completely smothers weeds. In summer the mat is lush, Irish green; in the winter it turns a glowing ruby purple, quite unlike any other plant we have in cultivation. For almost a month, beginning in mid-April, the leaves are practically hidden by its shimmering, daisy-like yellow flowers, each over an inch wide. To top it all off, this plant tolerates almost any soil or exposure, provided it is neither too wet nor too dark.

The purple ice plant, *Delosperma cooperi*, does not have as attractive foliage as its yellow cousin, but it compensates for this by producing flowers twice as large—and by blooming almost non-stop throughout the summer.

The purple ice plant was first grown here from seed obtained from Bonn Botanic Gardens in 1984. By the spring of 1986 almost 2,000 plants of this species were sold at the Plant and Used Book Sale. By the next spring, virtually every garden center and wholesale nursery in the region was selling this plant.

Turkish Veronica: New plants come to our gardens by various ways.



Rock Alpine
Garden walks
scheduled
May 17.

One of the most recent and dramatic introductions was collected in north-west Turkey by horticulturists from Canada and England on a privately organized plant hunting expedition. *Veronica liwanensis* is a tiny, crevice-haunting plant of local occurrence near a village called Liwan (whence it derives its name). The collectors could never have dreamed that such a local, scarce species would become, in less than a decade, a major landscape plant.

This veronica resembles a ground-hugging creeping thyme, except that its leaves are almost succulent. They are a lush, bluish green throughout the year. In April the tight mat begins to sprout tiny blue stars that gradually transform the mat into a cobalt carpet of color that lasts into June. It has proven to be a vigorous ground cover under a wide range of conditions.

The original seedlings were grown by a few gardeners on either coast of the United States. However, it was only when it was displayed at Denver Botanic Gardens—first, in the Rock Alpine Garden, and later, along the principal east-west walkway south of the greenhouses—that horticulturists

became aware of the true colors of this dramatic new plant. It is now available in most local nurseries and from several national distributors.

These are only three of the many interesting ground covers and perennials that are displayed at Denver Botanic Gardens. Some are so novel that you would be hard put to find them in a single reference book on horticulture. Yet you may soon see them enter the mainstream of regional horticulture, as they're discovered by our professional and amateur visitors.

Panayoti Kelaidis, the curator of Denver Botanic Gardens' Rock Alpine Garden, speaks widely and writes prolifically to spread his enthusiasm for gardening.

Free Day April 14

Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum will both be open to Colorado citizens free of charge on Saturday, April 14. The Gardens is open from 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., and the arboretum from 9 a.m. until dusk. Without a question, mid-April can be a beautiful time to visit either of these locations.

C A P R A P R

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies

A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a **general** indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switchboard during business hours at 331-4000.

African Violet Society, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society**, 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society**, 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club**, 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society**, 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers**, 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society**, 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International**, 4th Fri.; **Iris Society**, spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club**, 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society**, 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society**, 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society**, 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club**, 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society**, 2nd Sun. of 5 months.

A	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1 African Violet Show and Sale, Chatfield Arboretum open	2	3 Beginning Copperplate Calligraphy*	4 New Members' Party, Basic Pool Construction	5 Search for our Botanical Legacy, Beginning Bonsai*	6	7 Rose Symposium, Ukrainian Easter Eggs, Ikebana Lessons*, Summer Bulbs*
	8	9 Watercolor Painting	10	11 Beginning Bird Watching*, Watercolor Painting*, Water Gardening Basics	12 Beyond Marigolds—A Palette of Annuals*	13	14 Free Day, Japanese Tea Ceremony, F.T. to Rocky Mountain Arsenal
	15	16	17	18 Plant Life Field Trip: Red Rocks Park	19 Members' Meeting and Dinner	20	21 Earth Day Celebrations, Plant Life Field Trip, Case of the African Violet
	22 Earth Day Celebrations, Japanese Tea Ceremony	23	24	25	26 Herbs in the Garden	27	28 Vegetable Gardening for Results*
	29	30					
Coming Next Month May 2 Introduction to Rocky Mountain Xeriscape May 5 Garden Railway Design		May 10 Pre-sale Party May 11 & 12 Plant and Used Book Sale May 13 Tea Ceremony	May 15 Pre-school Guide Training* May 17 Wildflowers of the Plains Field Trip, Foliage in the Garden*, Rock Alpine Garden Walk	May 19 Herb Garden in a Dish, Tea Ceremony May 20 Japanese Garden Promenade	May 22 Natural Style Flower Arranging May 23 Free Day at DBG and Chatfield Arboretum	May 26 Ecology and Flora of North Table Mountain, Old Garden Rose Show May 27 Japanese Garden Promenade	

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
303-331-4000

Address correction requested

TIME VALUE

April 1990



Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 205
Denver, CO

Members Shop Early At "Flowering of Denver" Friday

The best tip for a successful garden this year is this: You can shop early on Friday at this year's annual sale. The Gaylord Street gate will open at 8:30 a.m. — *for members only* — on May 11 to give you the first choice of the greatest selection of plants in Denver. *Bring your membership card to take advantage of this privilege.*

The 41st Annual Plant and Used Book Sale, "The Flowering of Denver," will demonstrate that year after year, the sale keeps getting better. From the time the gates open at 9:30 a.m. for late-comers and non-members until they close at 5 p.m., shoppers, gardeners, people watchers and artists will excitedly shift from one role to another as they enjoy hours at the sale.

The special sale correspondent to the *Green Thumb News*, Emerson R. Birchfield, exclaims, "Nearly every plant that could grace a Colorado garden is to be found at the 'Flowering of Denver.'" And from the time the gates open until the last moments of the sale, shoppers scurry about gathering the perfect items for their perfect gardens. Every effort has been made by the many volunteers and staff members involved with the production of this extravaganza (22 acres of shopping) to accommodate you, the shopper. Food vendors will be on hand. The plant corral will serve as a holding area to allow you to drive up and load your selections; crews there will issue claim checks, watch your cart and assist with loading. Extra parking can be found at Calvary Temple, 200 South University Blvd., with shuttle buses running from 7 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Special educational programs will be offered to assist you with planting needs — the schedule is included in this newsletter.

Thursday night before the sale, on May 10, "The Flowering of Denver" Pre-sale Party provides you an additional opportunity to make selections at a slower pace. The Botticelli String Quartet will play in the background, Panache will cater a buffet and there will be a drawing for a free rose garden. A cash bar will be provided for the serious shopper, and dress for this party is casual. The \$40 reservation fee (\$25 is a tax-deductible donation) needs to be received at the Gardens by May 4. Call 331-4000, Ext. 25, for additional details.

The next morning at 8:30 at the Gaylord Street entrance, members only can enter in search of their treasures. Whether they be books, plants, yard ornaments or distinctive items from the Gift Shop, early hunters will delight in their finds of the day.

Green Thumb



*The Flowering
of Denver*



NEWS

**Denver Botanic Gardens
May 1990
Number 90-5**



Inside:

*Plant and
Used Book
Sale
page 4*

*Wildflower
Weekend at
Rocky
Mountain
National Park
page 6*

*Choices
everywhere at
the May 11 & 12
Plant and Used
Book Sale.*

Old Garden Roses Have Day at the Gardens Memorial Day Weekend

On Saturday, May 26, from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., members of the Denver Rose Society will host the Gardens' second annual show of species roses and old garden roses.

It will be a non-juried exhibit, and you are invited to bring your own spray of blossoms to add to the show. An unusual variety or a particularly floriferous branch from your garden will help spread your enthusiasm for this beautiful and fragrant group of plants. Knowledgeable rose "historians" will be on hand to aid in identifying roses for which you have no name; perhaps there's a magnificent old shrub growing in your alley you'd like to identify — bring in some blossoms.

Species roses are those ancient plants that have occurred naturally, with no input from hybridizers. Old garden roses are generally considered to be those that were made before the arrival of the first hybrid tea in the

late 19th century, though some more recent varieties are often included in this category because of their appearance.

Last year's show, though a beginning effort, presented the most charming and fragrant collection of blossoms ever to grace our exhibit hall. To find out more about this exhibit, including how to enter your flowers, call Linda Campbell of the rose society (832-7070) or Larry Latta at the Gardens (331-4000).

Free Day at DBG and Chatfield

Wednesday, May 23, will be a free day at both Denver Botanic Gardens and at Chatfield Arboretum.

Remember that your Denver Botanic Gardens membership entitles you to enter both DBG and the arboretum without charge whenever they are open to the public. This spring free day, however, would be a beautiful time to introduce some non-member friends to our wonderful gardens on York Street or our arboretum southwest of Littleton.

Chatfield Arboretum is home to many different plant communities.



Tributes

In memory of Sol Felsen

Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Appel

In memory of Leona Nicoulin Fix

Shirley Baker

Perry & Mary Holcomb

Lucia & Hilary Johnson

Marge Reidy

In memory of Phyllis Kealiker

Barbara M. Finerty

In memory of Lola Oletha Kershner

Myron & Elizabeth Snell

In memory of Nathaniel B. King

Debra Hindin-King

In memory of Frederick N. (Fred) Lang

Claire M. Almquist

John & Ruth Axelson

Mr. & Mrs. John Clark Coe

Harvey & Corinne Knaus

John & Kay McNamara

Roger & Dotty Nittler

Betty Roberts

Peter & Jane Sanford

Diana Redding Taylor

In memory of Linelda "Pat" Longwell

Betty Gertie

In memory of T. Paul Maslin (Restricted to the Library)

Mary H. Maslin

In memory of Florence M. Scott

Friends at Consumer Credit Counseling

In memory of Mrs. Rosamond Russell Shaw

Mr. & Mrs. Walter C. Emery

Mrs. William H. Foster

Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Stapleton

In memory of Mrs. En Watada

Gloria K. Winber

Staff of YWCA of Metropolitan Denver

In memory of Ward B. Wilbur

Mr. & Mrs. Herbert I. Jones

Author Jerome Malitz to Present "Personal Landscapes in Colorado"

"Pass through the gates of any great gardens and you enter a perfect universe, an example of the most congenial collaboration between man and nature. Stroll the paths and every step opens up new pleasures, every turn is met with delightful surprises." — from Jerome Malitz, *Personal Landscapes*.

Author, gardener, mathematics professor and Colorado resident, Professor Malitz shares his philosophical and natural approach to gardening with members of the Gardens on Wednesday, May 23, at 7 p.m.: "Personal Landscapes in Colorado — the Agony and the Ecstasy" in John C. Mitchell II Hall.

Advance reservations are encouraged for this lecture: members' tickets are \$6 and non-members' are \$7 each. If space is available, tickets will also be sold at the door. Register using the education department form in this newsletter.

Mr. Malitz will be available before and, for a short time, after the lecture for book-signing. His book will be sold for \$42.84 (including tax).



Green Thumb News Number 90-5 May 1990

Published monthly by the Denver Botanic Gardens education department, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Carolyn Knepp and Larry Latta. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in Denver Botanic Gardens. For membership information, please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000, Ext. 22.

Deadlines for this newsletter are: Major news stories, feature material (including photographs or artwork), and short notes are all due not later than May 21 for July and June 21 for August.

Late material cannot be used. Stories must be typed, double-spaced, preferably on copy paper provided by the editors. Please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20, for details.



Accredited by the
American Association
of Museums

Members Invited To Luncheon and Concert

Members of Denver Botanic Gardens are invited to attend a luncheon and concert Wednesday, May 2, hosted by the Greater Denver Area Music Teachers Association. DBG members will receive a discount on tickets.

The luncheon is at 11 a.m. in John C. Mitchell II Hall; the concert, by the Metropolitan Chamber Players, is at 12:30 p.m. Both events will cost \$11 for members of the Gardens; the regular price is \$15.

For tickets or more information call Arlyce Black, 795-8162.

DBG Guild to Host Recruitment Tea May 23

The Denver Botanic Gardens Guild will host a tea in the herb garden gazebo on Wednesday, May 23, to recruit new members into its organization. The reception will begin at 10 a.m.

The Guild is a volunteer group that dedicates innumerable hours of fund-raising service to the Gardens. Members sell herbs at the annual Plant and Used Book Sale and also make and sell herb vinegars and spice mixes and cut, dry, and dye flowers for the November Holiday Sale. In addition they're gardeners, performing the major share of duties in the DBG herb garden, which they initiated and continue to support through lecture programs and promotion.

Guild dues are \$7.50 a year. Members meet the second Wednesday of the month, September through June, at the Morrison Center at 2320 East 11th Avenue.

Amended Tax Information

Information on the tax-deductible portion of your DBG membership dues and contributions was presented inaccurately in last month's *Green Thumb News*. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused our members. The following table is a clarification.

Level of Membership	Tax Deductible Amount
Senior	\$ 00.00
Student	00.00
Senior Couple or Individual	6.00
Family/Dual	16.00
Contributing	25.00
Supporting	69.00
Advocate	205.00
Patron	399.00
Four Seasons Affiliate	899.00



Garden evenings are special.

Exciting Season of Summer Concerts Set

The ListenUp Garden Concert Series in the amphitheater has been set. Its mixture of jazz, classical and gospel formats promises exciting performances for everyone.

You can buy your tickets any of three ways. By far the most convenient is by mail, but you may also phone or stop by the ticket outlets at KCFR Radio, ListenUp retail stores or the Gardens. *You will receive your tickets-by-mail information by mail.* Tickets must be purchased in advance. They'll go on sale by mail May 1, by phone June 4 and at the outlets (for Beausoleil only) June 4.

Here's the schedule of concerts:

Thursday, June 21, Beausoleil

Garrison Keillor (*Prairie Home Companion*) has called them the best Cajun band in the world.

Friday, July 6, The Persuasions

You'll love this legendary a capella/doowop group.

Thursday and Friday, July 19-20, Gerry Mulligan and the Gerry

Mulligan Quartet with the National Repertory Orchestra

This program was performed with the New York Philharmonic to rave reviews.

Thursday, August 2, Yomo Toro

The famous cuatro player and his Puerto Rican band will perform music commissioned by the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival for "Music of the Americas."

Friday, August 3, Music from the Santa Fe Music Festival

A quintet from the world-renowned festival will play an evening of classical music.

Thursday and Friday, August 16-17, The Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble

Our favorite dancers will perform an all-gospel program with choir accompaniment.

Thursday and Friday, August 30-31, The Modern Jazz Quartet

The summer will close with elegant jazz renditions.



Tours for children of all ages are scheduled at the Gardens this summer.

4 Emerson R. Birchfield and "The Flowering of Denver" — What Makes a Gardener?



It is interesting to ponder, "What makes a garden?" and even more interesting to ask, "What makes a gardener?" The first question is the easier to answer — a garden is, quite simply, a grouping of plants that please the gardener. It can be large or small, planted in containers or housed indoors.

Nearly every plant that could please a Colorado gardener is to be found at "The Flowering of Denver," the 41st Annual Plant and Used Book Sale on May 11 and 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Which brings me again to the question, "What makes a gardener?" Single-minded determination is one ingredient — telling the children to make their own breakfasts and find their own ways to school is common on the Friday morning of the plant sale. Patience is another gardening quality. Watching a peony develop over the years until scores of luscious blossoms cover the plant is well worth the wait. Defiance, too, is the stuff of which gardeners are made. The best gardeners I know, year after year, battle the elements (whether slugs can be labeled as elements, strictly speaking, is debatable, but that's beside the point).

I am struck each year by the dedication and generosity of the volunteers who make "The Flowering of Denver" a reality. It is my pleasure to introduce the sale divisions and some of the volunteers who toil year-round.

Linda and John Verbiscar head the book sale. Gardening books are, as one might expect, hot items, but the fiction section is especially strong this year. There is a wide range of books for the domestic type, from cooking to sewing. In addition, look for stamps, tapes, puzzles, and quality magazines. This sale is held in the classrooms.



John C. Mitchell II Hall houses the house plant division, chaired by Cindy Black, assisted by Danielle Okin, and cacti and succulents, headed by H. V. Rodman. They promise exciting new bromeliads, orchids, and some old-fashioned windowsill plants. The bonsai division, run by members of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society, offers outstanding examples of this age-old Japanese art suitable for indoor growing, as well as cultural instructions.

Just outside the front doors of the lobby (where, incidentally, the Gift Shop expands with special treasures) is the patio division. Lush hanging baskets and large containers of all-season bloomers such as geraniums and marguerite daisies are a hallmark of Katy Dickson's division. Note the extra-large baskets of fuchsias and pansies, which would look grand swaying from a tree limb near a terrace. Katy finds exciting new flowers each year, and her 1990 specialties include marmalade plant (*Streptosolen jamesonii*) and *Mandevilla* 'Alice du Pont'.



The annuals division is in gifted hands with Sheila Stephens and Joedy Arnold. These gardeners, between the two of them, have grown just about every annual flower one can imagine and a few others besides. I challenge every gardener in the state to pick up three six-packs of something you have never grown before, such as Chinese houses (*Collinsia heterophylla*), hawk's beard (*Crepis rubra*), twin-spur (*Diascia barberae*), balsam (*Impatiens balsamina*), black-eyed Susan vine (*Thunbergia alata*), or creeping zinnia (*Sanvitalia procumbens*). These were favorites in bygone days but were pushed aside when fashion dictated that enormous flowers of psychedelic intensity were essential.

The herb division may provide the right plants to tone them down. Many herbs, aside from their culinary and

medicinal uses, possess subtle floral charm and delicately beautiful foliage. The old-fashioned scented geraniums are quite the best for weaving together a planting. Their delightful scent is another bonus (and you have not lived until you have tasted a scented-geranium cake). Barbara Moore and Julie Beall, the division heads, certainly know their herbs and they are as delightful as the plants they sell.

Speaking of delightful, the water lilies and aquatic plants in Doris and Len Freestones' division tempt us all to dig a pond, if we don't already have one. The Freestones emphasize that even a small pond can provide much pleasure (a big one, of course, approaches nirvana) and some plants, even smaller water lilies, can be grown in barrels and other containers.

More heaven — this time of the mouth-watering type — is within reach at Knobby Brown's vegetable division. Store-bought produce is no match for home-grown 'Celebrity' tomatoes, 'Sweet Success' cucumbers or 'Dusky' eggplants. Knobby recommends some new introductions, such as 'Oriole' pepper, a sweet bell variety that ripens to a glowing orange and space-saving 'Bushkin' pumpkin delicious for pies, canning, and seed snacks.

Tiger lilies certainly look good enough to eat. In fact, the bulbs were grown for food in the Orient at one time, and for all I know, still are. The chairman of summer bulbs, Janet Sickafuse, decided to rekindle a little bit of garden romance by offering some hybrids of *Lilium tigrinum* this year. The familiar orange flowers with black spots are now seen in cream, peach and lemon shades. Janet's division has many other lilies, both pot-grown and bare bulbs.



Special plants will abound in all divisions.

Shoppers who find themselves transfixed by the carpet of blue beneath the crabapples along the east-west alle' at the gardens will be delighted to find this spectacular ground cover, *Veronica liwanensis*, available in the plant donations division. Elinor Newmarker and Marilyn Moore, who co-chair this section, dug and divided many perennials from DBG. Among the choice selections are *Eryngium giganteum*, a stately sea holly that positively bristles with metallic blue flowers; *Ligularia dentata*, with its bold, heart-shaped foliage and golden blossoms and *Callirhoe involucrata*, a trailing native plant with chalice-shaped magenta flowers.

The tree and shrub division offers a wide selection of compact forms of old-fashioned favorites. Nothing is more heart-breaking than to see spiraeas, privets and euonymus that have been disfigured by hacking and chopping to keep them in bounds — gardeners often don't consider the mature size of shrubs when planting them. Chairman Eva Littlefield and her assistant Carol Schutz offer 'Lodense' privet, many smaller spiraeas, and the compact form of burning bush (*Euonymus alatus* 'Compactus').

How Kathy Borgen and Lynda Goldstein keep track of the many hundreds of plants in their rock alpine ground cover division is beyond me. Rockless gardeners will find plants for many situations — from shady nooks to sun-baked fields and those with rocks will be euphoric. Most of the plants in this division range from an inch in height to a few feet, making them ideal for small-scale gardens.

John Reber's perennial division offers plants for every garden, from mountain to plain to inner-city. The varieties of mildew-resistant *Phlox maculata* — 'Alpha,' 'Delta,' and 'Rosalinde' — are excellent border flowers, as are the 'Popsickle' lupines. Jerusalem sage (*Phlomis russeliana*) will undoubtedly become a Denver classic.

All of these perennials will delight children too, although there is a special section just for them. In Jeanne Ruggle's children's garden, they may learn about attracting birds and butterflies and about whimsical flowers and vegetables. What better way to entice the little hooligans to eat their vegetables than to grow them in their own patch? And since the Sunday following the sale is Mothers Day, eager young gardeners can pot up flowers in beautiful handmade stoneware and porcelain cachepots.

Every mother should treat herself to a lovely wicker basket brimming with annuals for her terrace, porch or balcony. Talented chairman Rosemary Laughlin and her artistic fellow volunteers create one-of-a-kind plantings for sun and shade. Rosemary also



offers cast statuary that is displayed throughout the annuals section.

I can picture the dragon nestled in a bed of miniature roses, which can be found in Betty Lou Roberts' division. The rose division is one of our most popular sections: the plants are exquisite and are chosen for their vigor, scent and beauty. The other gardener in the household, Ken Roberts, chairs the berry basket, where the best can be found in fruiting plants, shrubs, vines and trees. Can you imagine a tea party at the Roberts' home, with gooseberry tarts, apple and cherry pies, jellies and jams of all sorts and bouquets of magnificent roses? It was Emma Goldman who said, "I'd rather have roses on my table than diamonds on my neck," and I'm sure she would have included peach cobbler among her preferences. That's one more thing about gardeners — they've certainly got their priorities straight.

Emerson R. Birchfield is our special correspondent for "The Flowering of Denver." He has his priorities straight as well. His shopping list is longer than this article.)

Educational Events in Amphitheater

Friday, May 11

10:30 to 11:00 a.m. "Herbs" — Judy Russell

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. "Designer Weeds" — Jim Knopf

1 to 2 p.m. "Bonsai" — Jim Robinson

Saturday, May 12

11 to 11:30 a.m. "Gardens in a Moment" — Carolyn Jensen

11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. "Perennials" — Andrew Pierce

12:30 to 1:00 p.m. "Basket Gardening" — Jane Park

1:15 to 2:00 p.m. "Troughs and Trough Planting" — Stan Metsker

New Gift Shop Items

In addition to featuring the city's best selection of plant materials and used books, the Denver Botanic Gardens annual Plant and Used Book Sale also previews the Gift Shop's newest merchandise.

Bird houses will be available in different styles this year. Especially beautiful is the Victorian-style house of verdigris copper. The Gift Shop has also stocked several bird baths of terra-cotta and black cast marble.

Many items will give your yard a fresh, new look such as French enameled metal thermometers (suitable for the outdoors), verdigris wall planters and watering cans, recent garden statuary designs by Hen and Feathers, and ceramic tile house-number plaques with floral decorations.

To bring in the sweet breezes of summer, prop your doors open with doorstops handpainted with flowers. A number of other items will be available for inside the home including botanical prints with painted tapestry frames, oriental screens, needlepoint pillows, bell pulls and hand-painted baskets and trays.

For you indoor entertaining shop for china cups and saucers in new floral designs as well as french porcelain in the "Elysian Garden" pattern.

For those of you in need of gardening inspiration, the Gift Shop, as always, features an outstanding selection of gardening books. You'll find ideas galore for perennials, annuals, roses, bulbs, vegetables and fruits as well as herb gardens, formal gardens, secret gardens, country gardens and all gardens in between.

Come early for the best selection and be sure to bring your membership card for your 10 percent discount on purchases of \$10 or more.



May 11 and 12
will be your best
days to buy
plants.



Field trip season is here. Watch for announcements in the education section.

Acting Director Andrew Pierce is a knowledgeable field trip leader. He will head the wildflower trip to Rocky Mountain National Park.



Photographer Derek Fell To Do June Workshop For "Flowers and Art"

Well-known photographer Derek Fell will present an interesting lecture and conduct a photography workshop as part of a three-day "Flowers and Art" festival in June. The festival will include other talks, parties and an art-and-flowers exhibit.

Mr. Fell will present his program, "The Gardens of Versailles, Monet, and Renoir," on Saturday, June 16, in Wyer Auditorium of the Denver Public Library, 1357 Broadway. The fee is \$5 for members of Denver Botanic Gardens or the Denver Art Museum; for non-members it is \$7. At 2 p.m., following the lecture, he will conduct a photography workshop at Denver Botanic Gardens. The Fee is \$25, and attendance will be limited.

"Flowers and Art" is staged by the Garden Club of Denver, The Broadmoor Garden Club and the Denver Art Museum. The creative focus will be flower arrangements designed to complement selected examples of the museum's paintings (from the Renaissance to Santa Fe) and quilts. An official Garden Club of America flower show, these efforts will be exhibited for the public at the art museum on Friday and Saturday, June 15 and 16, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A gala patrons' preview party Thursday evening from 6 to 9 p.m. will kick off the festival.

To register for Mr. Fell's lecture or photography demonstration or other lectures planned by the Art Museum call Penny Barnow, 640-3899. For tickets to the patron party (\$50) call Kay Malo, 321-4440. For more information about "Flowers and Art" call Susan Sheridan, 733-9396.

Wildflower Weekend at Rocky Mountain National Park — June 16-17

A 25-passenger bus will leave the Gardens promptly at 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 16, to return Sunday at 6 p.m. Travel over Berthoud Pass, occasionally stopping to see plant communities along the way. Hotel rooms have been reserved at the Western Riviera on Grand Lake near the southwest edge of the park.

This tour, led by DBG Acting Director Andrew Pierce, will visit meadows full of spring and early summer flowers and (with luck) high mountain tundra beginning to bloom. Although this trip includes only short, easy walks, participants should be confident they'll be comfortable at high altitudes.

Registration information is available through the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20 (or you can refer to the April *Green Thumb News*.) DBG members are \$140 per person and non-members are \$160 each. Fees are based upon double occupancy. Enjoy the spectacular beauty of Rocky Mountain National Park as it celebrates its 75th anniversary — the late-spring wildflowers should be at their peak.

Classic Carriages to Mark Cemetery's 100th Year

Denver Botanic Gardens will help Fairmount Cemetery celebrate its 100th anniversary on June 2 by offering two guided walks through their collection of historic trees.

Beautifully restored horse-drawn carriages with drivers in period costumes will parade down Fairmount's

Main Drive at 10:00 a.m. on the morning of June 2 — one hundred years after the state's most beautiful cemetery opened its gates.

Tree walks will be offered at 11 a.m. by Denver Botanic Gardens for adults and children.

Shuttle buses will be available to transport guests from remote parking lots — and everything is free.

For additional information, call Fairmount Cemetery at 399-0692.

San Francisco Trip for Members in October

Denver Botanic Gardens members will tour the exciting San Francisco area in October. Sponsored by DBG, the trip will include guided visits to public and private gardens and opportunities to sample the abundant cultural activities in the premier fun city of the Pacific Coast.

The 17-acres of gardens of Fioli, an estate famous for its walled and rose gardens, perennial borders and a knot garden; the botanic gardens at the University of California at Berkeley; the Rodin Sculpture Garden at Stanford; and the Japanese garden of Strybing Arboretum are some of the stops on the itinerary. Members will also visit the gardens and test kitchens of Sunset Magazine, the Jordon Winery and Muir Woods, with a luncheon at beautiful Chateau Souverain.

Dates for the trip are October 2 through 7. There are limited seats for this tour, and tickets will sell fast. For more information call Barbara Baldwin, 778-7292, or Knobby Brown, 832-6175.

Ecology of Colorado

- Session 1:** Urban Wildlife
Saturday, June 2,
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 2:** Colorado Grass-
land
Saturday, June 9,
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 3:** Colorado Wetlands
Saturday, June 16
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 4:** Waterton Canyon
Saturday, June 23,
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 5:** Two Forks Dam
Saturday, June 30,
9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Session 6:** Roxborough State
Park
Saturday, July 7
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 7:** Red Rocks
Saturday, July 14
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 8:** Genesee Park
Saturday, July 21
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 9:** Mount Evans
Saturday, July 28
9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Session 10:** Rocky Mountain
National Park
Saturday, August 4
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Classes meet at Chatfield Arboretum Visitor Center.

Please indicate your session(s) on the registration form.

After a short group discussion, you will car pool and drive to the destination. The field trips will usually involve short stops at points of ecological interest before we get to our final destination. Bring a sack lunch, hat, jacket, rain gear, good hiking shoes, camera and water to each session.

Denver Botanic Gardens members and guests may sign up for one or more sections of the series without college tuition. Please pay your Denver Botanic Gardens fees to DBG. You must be preregistered for the trips. Call the education department, 331-4000, Ext. 20, for additional information.

Ecology of Colorado is a college credit course offered by Arapahoe Community College. College credit is available through ACC by paying regular tuition for this three-credit course and attending all class sessions. Call instructor Jim Trammell at 797-5841 (office) or 795-5843 (home) for additional information on college credit registration.

Instructor: Jim Trammell teaches at Arapahoe Community College and is a naturalist at Chatfield Arboretum.

Fee: \$10 members/\$11 non-members per class session. Additional transportation costs and entrance fees are shared with the driver.

Limit: 10 per class session

Planning Your Home Landscape—I

(two sessions)

Saturdays, May 5 and 19
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Visitor Center at Chatfield Arboretum

During the first session you will survey basic design principles and the processes for developing and building a landscape that suits your needs. Such topics as size analysis, circulation planning, microclimates, grading, drainage, paving, patios, irrigation systems and ecology will be covered, as well as plant material: trees, shrubs, groundcovers, lawns, native grasses and flowers.

You will develop a design project during the two weeks between the first and second class session. Your master landscape plan can then be your own home or another project of your choice.

Instructor: Thomas L. Stephens is a practicing landscape architect with more than 25 years as a professional designer. He has been teaching home landscape design for 19 years.

Fee: \$46 members/\$50 non-members (includes \$14 for materials)

Limit: 20

Planning Your Home Landscape—II

(two sessions)

Saturdays, May 5 and 19
1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Visitor Center at Chatfield Arboretum

This class is a second level of study for students who have previously taken Mr. Stephens' Landscaping I course. The course consists of a quick review of the status of student projects; cost analysis procedures; new and updated information on construction, plants, flowers and lawns; and additional information on plant and lawn maintenance procedures.

A field trip to local landscape projects of interest and to local nurseries will be a part of the course.

Instructor: Thomas L. Stephens

Fee: \$46 members/\$50 non-members (includes \$14 for materials)

Limit: 20

Identification of Spring Wildflowers

Saturday, May 19

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Polly Steele Nature Center at Chatfield Arboretum

Do yellow mustards confuse you? Do you get lost in a taxonomic key? This class will cover flower structure, family characteristics, and the use of a simple teaching key. Come prepared to do some indoor and outdoor activities. Please bring a sack lunch, wear good hiking shoes and be prepared to go outside.

Instructor: Vickey Trammel is an avid field biologist and botanist who has led many field trips.

Fee: \$20 members/\$22 non-members

Limit: 20

Memorial Day Bike and Hike Barbecue

Monday, May 28
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Meet at the Riverfront Mall off Bowles and Santa Fe Drive in the parking area of the closed Platinum Triangle Restaurant. Enter the lot from Bowles Avenue. Be prepared for biking and hiking conditions of the day. Children ages 12 and up are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult.

This is a leisurely 10-mile trip along paved trails to Chatfield Arboretum where a barbecue lunch will be served. We will stop at various points of interest to discuss plants and wildlife of the area. After lunch you can play, hike or snooze. We will provide transportation back to the Riverfront.

Leader: Jim Trammell

Fee: \$9 members/\$10 non-members/\$4 all children under 16/\$4 for those participating in lunch only. (Fee includes hot lunch, beverage and gate admission.)

Limit: 30 on bike trail and 100 paid lunch guests

Local Wild Plants for Food and Medicine

Saturday, June 9
9 a.m. to noon
Polly Steele Nature Center at Chatfield Arboretum

Learn which local plants have been used for food and medicine. After a short introductory slide show, the class will take a leisurely stroll through the Kim Sterne Survival Garden to learn to identify several of these plants.

Instructor: Tammi Morgan has been studying and growing herbs for more than 11 years. She also owns and operates White Rabbit Herbs in Arvada.

Fee: \$12 members/\$14 non-members

Limit: 20

Chatfield Arboretum

Spring Activities
1990





Spring
1990

Denver Botanic Gardens

CLASSES

Roxborough State Park— The Fountain Valley Trail

Saturday, May 26
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

See late-spring wildflowers at this spectacular park. Walk a relatively easy 2.25-mile loop trail that winds through striking geologic formations where a wide variety of habitats will be explored.

Please wear comfortable walking shoes and bring your lunch and drinking water in a day-pack. (The day-pack is essential because picnic facilities are not provided at the park.)

Meet: at the park visitors center promptly at 10 a.m. Please note that there is a \$4 admission fee for each car entering the park.

Leader: A popular field trip leader and nationally known lecturer on wildflowers, Bob Heapes has been a volunteer naturalist at Roxborough State Park for the past eight years.

Fee: \$5.50 members/\$6 non-members
Limit: 20

Roxborough State Park: The South Rim Trail

Saturday, June 9
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Walk the moderate three-mile South Rim Trail to see late-spring wildflowers at Roxborough State Park. The park is located in a transition zone where the plains meet the mountains and contains a unique combination of prairie and montane species.

Please wear comfortable walking shoes and bring your lunch and drinking water in a day-pack. (The day-pack is essential because there are no picnic facilities at the park.)

Meet: at the park visitors center promptly at 10 a.m. Please note that there is a \$4 admission fee for each car entering the park.

Instructor: Bob Heapes

Fee: \$5.50 members/\$6 non-members
Limit: 20

Mushroom Identification (two sessions)

Saturday, June 2, 9
Classroom C
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and
Optional Field Trips from
1:30 to 3:30 p.m. each day.

This course is for beginners and will provide a foundation for those who may wish to pursue the subject in more depth in the future. Spring-fruiting mushrooms of the city as well as the summer-fruiting species of the high country will be covered.

Two slide-lecture sessions cover structure, growth, habitat, seasonality, toxicity and edibility of mushrooms. The use of field guides and keys will be demonstrated and recommendations will be given on those most useful in our area.

An optional field trip to areas near the Gardens will be scheduled in the afternoon of each session. Those planning to attend should bring a sack lunch.

Instructor: Marilyn Shaw lectures and teaches extensively and has been active in the Colorado Mycological Society for 16 years.

Fee: \$32 members/\$35 non-members

Field Trip to Golden Gate Canyon State Park

Saturday, June 16
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This park contains the best array of foothills wildflowers in the Denver vicinity. Many late spring flowers will be blooming.

Join us on a leisurely walk in the Old Barn Knoll area and brush up on your identification skills. Don't forget your picnic lunch.

Leader: Dick Schwendinger has been leading field trips throughout North America for over 25 years.

Meet: promptly at 10 a.m. at the park's Nature Center. (Call the education department at 331-4000, extension 20, if you need directions.)

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members. Each car entering the park must purchase a daily user pass in addition to the field trip fee.

Limit: 15

Rock Alpine Garden Walk

Thursdays, May 17

Section I: 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Section II: 5:00 to 6:00 pm.
Alpine House

Tour the world-famous Rock Alpine Garden at the peak of its season. Many of the choice plants of this Garden have been donated by visitors from all over the world and many are found in Colorado's own Rocky Mountains. You can also see which plants will add color throughout the summer and which provide foliage color through the winter.

Instructor: Panayoti Kelaidis is curator of the Gardens' award-winning Rock Alpine Garden and is an enthusiastic teacher who enjoys sharing discoveries gleaned from his ten years at the Gardens.

Fee: \$4 members/\$4.50 non-members
Limit: 20

Japanese Garden Promenade

Section I: Sunday, May 20
Section II: Sunday, May 27

1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
Japanese Garden

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Shofu-en, the Garden of Pine Wind, is a classic *Chisen-Kaiyushiki* (wet garden with promenade) design. Gracing the northwest corner of the Gardens, its tranquility offers a retreat to visitors and staff. Learn more about the plants used, the construction of the tea house and the symbolism associated with almost every feature of this lovely Garden.

Meet: on the bridge to the south of the Japanese garden. The walk will begin promptly at 1 p.m.

Instructor: Harold Sasaki

Fee: \$4 members/\$4.50 non-members
Limit: 20

Lily Garden Walk

(one session)

Section I: Saturday, June 16
Section II: Tuesday, June 19
10 to 11 a.m.

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Orange Pixie, Stargazer, Thunderbolt, Zephyr, Journey's End, Green Magic, Fire Dancer and Black Dragon — these are all cultivar names for lilies that grow along our lily path. This guided walk introduces visitors to the delights of the true lily and shows how it can create special effects in a garden.

Meet: in Sunken Garden just a few steps inside DBG entrance.

Instructor: An avid gardener, Joann Narverud is the grounds foreman.

Fee: \$4 members/\$4.50 non-members
Limit: 18

Lilacs for Our Gardens

(one session)

Sunday, May 20
1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Classroom C

"Romance is in the very word 'lilac'," writes Alice Harding in *Lilacs in my Garden*. Learn which ones grow well in Colorado, how to prune them and where to go for emotional support when a late frost nips their buds. Then, stroll outside to discuss and

enjoy the spring bloom of the Gardens' lilac collection of over 100 kinds.

Instructor: Julie Dulapa studied education and horticulture and has assisted with research and renovation of our lilac display.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

Limit: 20

Rose Garden Walk

(one session)

Section I: Tuesday, June 12
10 to 11 a.m.

Section II: Tuesday, June 19
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

What could be better than a June morning in a rose garden? This walk will lead you through the collection in the May Bonfils Stanton Memorial Rose Garden.

Meet: at the pergola (open shelter in garden) in the rose garden.

Instructor: Joann Narverud

Fee: \$4 members/\$4.50 non-members

Limit: 18

Garden Railway Design

Saturdays, May 5 and 19
1 to 3:30 p.m. Classroom C

Learn how to create a xeriscape garden with the Santa Fe line running through a miniature landscape in your own backyard, or the Southern Pacific in your rock garden.

These undertakings require neither a large space nor a large budget. Learn which plants make effective miniature trees, which plants provide year-round interest, where to go for your plant material and how to place the tracks.

Instructor: Barbara Horovitz is a member of the Denver Garden Railway Association. She and her husband operate a garden railway in Denver and publish the bimonthly *Garden Railways Magazine* (available in the Helen Fowler Library.)

Fee: \$20 members/\$24 non-members

Herb Garden in a Dish

Saturday, May 19
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Morrison Center
(2320 East 11th Avenue)

What looks like a carefully designed bonsai planting but is in fact a culinary resource? It's Steve Wild's herb garden in a dish.

Actually planted in a large saucer, a typical garden consists of geranium "trees" and "bushes" surrounded by a ground cover of creeping thyme.

Make a garden of your own to take home. Each participant will receive step-by-step construction directions and instructions for maintaining it. Each dish garden weighs approximately 30 pounds; the class will meet in the Morrison Center to make transporting your garden from class to car easier. Several weeks before the class begins a mature dish garden will be displayed in the Gardens' library.

Instructor: Steve Wild studied horticulture at CSU. He owns and operates Peep O'Day Herb Garden in Loveland. His tabletop herb garden was featured in the October/November 1989 issue of *The Herb Companion*.

Fee: \$52 members/\$56 non-members (includes \$40 for materials)

Limit: 15

Foliage in the Garden: Color, Form and Texture

(three sessions)

Thursdays, May 17, 24, 31
7 to 9 p.m. Classroom B

An effectively designed garden looks good throughout the year. We can only accomplish this by using attractive foliage of both woody and herbaceous plants, not by depending solely on flowers. Foliage adds form, color and texture to a garden at times and in ways that flowers can't. Come find out what plants will give your garden a framework and lasting beauty, and learn ways to combine the colors, forms and texture of these plants to create garden pictures of subtle harmony, as well as strong, vivid contrast.

Instructor: Lauren Springer

Fee: \$24 members/\$28 non-members

Vegetable Gardening for Results

(four sessions)

Saturdays, May 5 (skip 12), 19, 26
and June 2
1 to 3:30 p.m.
Morrison Center (2320 E. 11th Avenue) and Classroom C

This series of vegetable gardening classes will introduce you to organic methods. Register for all or for individual classes.

Cole Crops, Lettuce and Other Greens
May 5, Morrison Center

These healthful, easily grown vegetables are especially suited for spring and fall growing conditions. Learn how to grow broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, bok choy, Chinese cabbage and more. Learn to start an assortment of salad greens and how to do succession planting, intercropping and fertilization.

The Tomato and its Relatives

May 19, Classroom C

Tomatoes, peppers and eggplants are all members of the deadly nightshade family. Learn how to select superior varieties for your needs and how to maximize yields. Seed sources for unusual varieties will be provided.

Beyond the May Planting Frenzy

May 26, Morrison Center

This session will focus on appropriate crops for the late-summer-to-fall garden. Many plants respond well to the shortening daylight hours and cooler temperatures.

Putting the Garden to Rest

June 2, Morrison Center

After the harvest prepare your soil for next year and use organic methods to improve it. You will learn about fall tilling, composting, soil enrichment and cover crops to prevent erosion and provide soil aeration. Fall should be the second busiest season of the gardening year!

Instructor: Judy Elliott is an enthusiastic teacher with 15 years of organic gardening experience. She is a master gardener who was recently hired to assist "Dr. Green" at DBG.

Fee: \$10 members/\$12 non-members for single session. Entire series is \$40 members/\$44 non-members.

Watercolor Painting

(five sessions)

Section I: Mondays,
May 21, June 4, 11,
18, 25
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Section II: Wednesdays,
May 23, 30,
June 6, 13, 20
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Section III: Wednesdays,
May 23, 30
June 6, 13, 20
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Classroom B

Explore the sparkle and delicacy of watercolor painting while enjoying the natural setting of Denver Botanic Gardens. This course will cover the basic materials and techniques with the emphasis on freedom of personal expression.

Come prepared with supplies. You'll need: one-inch flat brush, #10 round brush, watercolor paper, tissues, container for water, plastic palette and cake or tube watercolors.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky teaches art history, watercolor painting and oil painting at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design and displays his work at Inkfish Art Gallery.

Fee: \$60 members/\$66 non-members

Limit: 15

Japanese Tea Ceremony

Section V: Sunday, June 3
Section VI: Saturday, June 16
Section VII: Sunday, June 17

2 to 3 p.m.
Tea House in the Japanese Garden

Because of its emphasis on such concepts as harmony, respect, purity, tranquility and elegant simplicity, the tea ceremony has for centuries been considered the epitome of Japanese life. This is an opportunity to experience an authentic tea ceremony in the quiet splendor of our Japanese garden.

Instructor: Kathryn Kawakami has done much to inform Denver-area residents and students about the culture of Japan.

Fee: \$4.50 members/\$5 non-members
Limit: 15

Natural Style Flower Arranging for Spring

Tuesday, May 22
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Classroom B

Create a special floral arrangement that reflects the delicate yet lively flowers of spring. Students are encouraged to bring whatever personal materials they may have to add even more interest and variety to their work.

Please bring your own containers and flower snips as well as a container (a small bucket is perfect) for holding water and flowers when cutting materials. A piece of floral foam or a needle-point flower holder and wire cutters or pruning shears will also be useful. Some flowers will be cut from the Gardens, and others will be purchased and provided for you. Please bring a sack lunch to class.

Instructor: An experienced floral de-

signer and teacher, Julia Dobbins has studied floral arranging extensively both in the United States and England.

Fee: \$31 members/\$35 non-members (includes \$15 for flowers)

Limit: 12

Personal Landscapes in Colorado

Wednesday, May 23 7 to 9 p.m.
John C. Mitchell II Hall

Natural settings, favorite gardens and personal philosophy will be the themes of this lecture by author, gardener Jerome Malitz. See article on page for more details.

Instructor: Jerome Malitz, author of *Personal Landscapes* (available in our Gift Shop and library).

Fee: \$6 members/\$7 non-members

Professionalize Your Natural History Presentation

Saturday, June 16
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Classroom C

The equipment and the talk — each are of equal importance for a successful slide presentation. If your slide collection is monumental, even after editing, but you've been unable to develop a polished presentation for garden clubs and other groups, then this workshop is for you.

The morning session deals with the variety of equipment available. Following lunch, it's the talk. Do you need a good story or do your slides tell it? What is the title? If you must stand alone without a podium, what props can you use? You will receive suggestions on how to give a "noteless" lecture, to be glib (without being obnox-

ious) and to work with the audience.

Instructor: Bob Heapes is a popular field trip leader and speaker who has lectured throughout the United States. His photographs have been published in *Colorado Homes and Lifestyles*, *Pacific Horticulture*, *Horticulture*, and *Flower and Garden*.

Fee: \$24 members/\$27 non-members (includes a box lunch)

Paint on Fabrics — Summer Projects

Saturday, June 16
Noon to 3:30 p.m. Classroom B

Create a personalized tablecloth and set of napkins, a stylish T-shirt, summer dress or beach bag using abstract floral patterns and acrylic paints.

Each student will leave with a completed project. Please bring a tightly woven, plain tablecloth and matching napkins, a plain totebag or cotton knit item of clothing. Any color will work. Time will allow for completion of one or two projects, depending upon their size. Also bring a large jar for water, hard toothbrush and any paint-brushes you might feel like using. The instructor will provide acrylic paints and the found objects from her "junk box."

Students from age 12 up are encouraged to participate. No previous experience is necessary.

Instructor: Marilyn Schmidt is an artist and fabric designer and a master teacher at the Denver Art Museum. She has taught many popular sweatshirt art classes and has exhibited her work around the state.

Fee: \$22 members/\$25 non-members (including \$8 for materials)

Limit: 12

Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206

Fees for courses should be paid in advance by charge, check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your payment is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

Enclosed is _____ to cover the registration fees for the following classes:

Name and section of class(es) _____

Name _____

Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Member ID _____
 (on top line of newsletter address label)

Address _____

City _____ ZIP code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐

_____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

Gardening: Small Projects Make Modernizing Easy

Few of us — except, perhaps the young and inexperienced — are ready to tackle the job of redoing an entire landscape in one sweeping, year-swallowing project.

It is the reluctance to take on a big job — whether because of finances or stamina — that has kept many home gardeners from embracing xeriscaping, in practice, long after they've taken it, in theory, to their hearts. Yet at the core of the xeriscape landscaping philosophy, nearly as central to its meaning as conservation, is creative planning that enables you to envision — then realize in plants, soils, garden structures and horticultural practice — a landscape, harmonious over-all that is composed of several distinct areas.

Each of these zones need not be of xeric (i.e., desert or dryland) plantings. It is recognized that nearly any plant may find an acceptable role in xeriscaping. After all, there are strong xeriscape movements in all parts of the United States, not just here in the arid and semi-arid West, and most xeric plants would not even survive in some locales, much less contribute to a pleasing, conservation-centered landscape. Even in our region, each one of us may have a valid reason for including moisture-loving plants in some portion of our landscape.

The key to modernizing a “traditional” landscape, then, both from a project management standpoint and a conservation standpoint, is to break up your relandscaping project and your yard into independent components.

May is the planting month. What better time to begin your first (small) modernizing project?

Look around your yard. Are there some places you've been dissatisfied with? Is there a steep, difficult-to-mow bank of turf? A strip of ground far from the house that's hard to reach with the hose? A foundation planting that's overgrown, or that you're worried about watering because of the soil near your house? A playground recently vacated by now-grown children? A salt-drenched parking strip along the street?

Replant it — this year. Turn it into a “zone” of your landscape — if possible, a zone that's drier than the rest of the yard — and you will have embarked on xeriscaping.

Choose plants that have the same moisture needs. If the area is already dominated by a shapely, 20-foot weeping birch you must — unless you're willing to sacrifice a beautiful, though short-lived, tree — choose water-



Don't miss the spring flowers at the Gardens.

loving plants to go with it. But, if there's no over-riding reason to plant moisture-reliant plants, create in this area the first “drier zone” of your new conservation-oriented landscape.

Perhaps this spot calls, in your creative imagination, for a lawn area. Fine. First, keep the lawn area as small as you can and still achieve your aesthetic objective. Then choose an efficient type of grass. Several adapt well to less-frequent watering. Turf-forming tall fescue, the seed usually sold in mixture, uses 30 percent less water than bluegrass, yet is a beautiful, lawn-green turf grass. Even less thirsty are buffalograss or blue gramma. Buffalograss forms a tight turf over time (blue gramma grows in bunches), is salt tolerant, but greens up late in the spring. As a background for naturalized minor bulbs it is ideal because of this slow early growth.

Deciduous trees are somewhat problematic, but nearly any tree is better suited to a “drier zone” than are silver maples, cottonwoods or crabapples — all of which are sold and planted too frequently. Try, instead, a hackberry, ash, honey locust or Russian olive. For a large evergreen tree, most pines (especially the pinyon pine) and tree-forming junipers are suited to less moist landscapes. Avoid spruces (yes, even the beautiful Colorado blue spruce), larches and firs.

Of course, even this first year, you will want to frame your new lawn with shrubs and perennials or underplant your new tree with ground cover. Remember, choose these com-

panions from the many plants which have the same water requirements as your turf or shade tree. Fortunately, your choice is nearly limitless, no matter how wet or dry you plan to treat this zone. It would be fruitless to even begin lists of such secondary plants here.

But help is available for your decision. The Gardens' Helen Fowler Library is a wonderful repository of books, pamphlets and periodicals on xeriscaping. The Xeriscape Demonstration Garden can provide you examples, as can the plains garden and, with guidance, the Rock/Alpine Garden. The Denver Water Board is a virtual publishing house on the subject; contact it. If you're a resident of Aurora, call the Aurora Water Department.

Coming to the Gardens In Early June

June 2 & 3 — American Iris Society, Region 20, iris show and sale.

June 9 — Denver Rose Society Workshop: rose arranging.

June 9 & 10 — Colorado Koi Club show.

June 10 — Colorado Water Garden Society water plants auction.

Details on all upcoming June activities will be in the June newsletter, but you'll want to put these events on your calendar now.

MAY

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies
A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a general indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switchboard during business hours at 331-4000.

African Violet Society, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society,** 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society,** 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club,** 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society,** 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers,** 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society,** 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International,** 4th Fri.; **Iris Society,** spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club,** 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society,** 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society,** 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society,** 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club,** 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society,** 2nd Sun. of 5 months.

C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2 Introduction to Rocky Mountain Xeriscape	3	4	5 Garden Railway Design, Vegetable Gardening for Results*
	6	7	8	9	10 Pre-sale Party	11 Plant and Used Book Sale	12 Wildflowers of the Plains Field Trip Plant and Used Book Sale
	13 Tea Ceremony	14	15 Preschool Guide Training*	16	17 Foliage in the Garden*, Rock Alpine Garden Walk	18	19 Herb Garden in a Dish, Tea Ceremony
	20 Japanese Garden Promenade, Lilacs for Our Garden	21 Watercolor Painting*	22 Natural Style Flower Arranging	23 Free Day, Personal Landscapes in Colorado, Watercolor Painting*	24	25	26 Ecology and Flora of North Table Mountain, Old Garden Roses Show
	27 Japanese Garden Promenade	28	29	30	31		
							*First meeting of a class with more than one session

Coming Next Month

June 2 Mushroom Identification	June 3 Tea Ceremony	June 10 Water Plant Auction	June 16 Paint on Fabric, F.T. to Golden Gate Canyon	June 16-17 Wildflower Weekend, Bonsai Exhibition	June 19 Lily Garden Walk, Perennial Walk	June 26 Young Audiences Concert
June 2-3 Iris Show	June 9-10 Koi Show, Rose Arranging Workshop	June 12 Rose Garden Walk		June 17 Tea Ceremony	June 21,22 Garden Concert	

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
 909 York Street
 Denver, Colorado 80206
 303-331-4000

Address correction requested

TIME VALUE
May 1990

Non Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit No. 205
 Denver, CO



Bruce Alexander Named Gardens' Interim Director

Longtime Denver businessman and civic leader Bruce Alexander was named Interim Executive Director of Denver Botanic Gardens in April. He took over from Assistant Director Andrew Pierce, who had been handling the leadership of the Gardens as Acting Executive Director since September 1989.

Mr. Alexander was chosen for his strong leadership, experience with personnel management, budget and financial oversight experience and an understanding of non-profit and governmental operations.

After over 30 years as Vice Chairman of First National Bank of Denver, Mr. Alexander retired. He then worked as Chairman of AMBANK Financial Corp. and President of Western Diversified Capital Corporation. In the private sector, he was a voting member of Governor Lamm's Metropolitan Water Conservation committee during its efforts to solve the water problems of metropolitan Denver.

Mr. Alexander is a member of the Citizens Advisory committee to the Denver Water Board. He has been a board member of St. Joseph Hospital for four years and is currently their chairman.

"Bruce Alexander has the qualifications and the ability to lead Denver Botanic Gardens through this period of transition," said DBG Board President Bea Taplin when he was appointed. "We are delighted that he has agreed to take on this important responsibility."

Mr. Alexander will direct the Gardens' staff of nearly 60 permanent and 15 seasonal staff until a permanent executive director is chosen sometime during the forth-coming months.

Green Thumb



NEWS

Denver Botanic Gardens
June 1990
Number 90-6



Inside:

*Volunteers
Needed*
page 3

*Celia
Thaxter's
Island Garden*
page 4

*More on Young
Audiences
Concerts*
page 6

*ListenUp
Garden
Concerts*
page 6

*Summer
evenings are
special at DBG.*

The Island Garden of Celia Thaxter

An "island garden" grows at 1005 York Street this summer. The new display is a re-creation of the famous garden of Celia Thaxter, a poet, essayist and renowned hostess of 19th century American artists and writers at her Appledore Island cottage, off the coast of Maine.

The display, "The Island Garden of Celia Thaxter," is part of a joint venture with the Denver Art Museum, which is mounting an exhibition from

July 5 through September 9 of watercolors by Childe Hassam, one of Mrs. Thaxter's frequent visitors and a foremost American impressionist painter. Both the Gardens and the Art Museum have scheduled special tours with their exhibits.

Joint Programs: Lectures and Classes

Co-sponsored by the Gardens and the Art Museum is a free lecture series, *continued on page 4*

Bonsai Exhibition June 16, 17

The annual bonsai exhibition by members of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society will be at the Gardens the weekend of June 16 and 17.

Large, old specimens displayed individually, each with its own backdrop, form the dramatic core of the show. Other trees and shrubs to be exhibited range from smaller first-year and student entries up to multiple-plant "forests." The event also includes educational demonstrations and plant sales.

A special tactile tour for the visually impaired will be given from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday. People with visual impairment and their guides will be admitted at the Gardens' group rate.

During the week previous to the exhibition plants offered for a drawing will be shown in the DBG lobby. Tickets will be available from bonsai society members.

Hours of the show are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday. For information call the society's show chairman Joe Chwirka, 433-6132.

Jim Robinson trims a 250-year-old Colorado juniper for the Bonsai show.

Iris Show at Gardens Gives Taste of '90s

"A Taste of the '90s" is the theme for an iris show by the American Iris Society the weekend of June 2 and 3. Each division of the artistic arrangement competition will carry names of prominent Denver area restaurants.

Although the show is scheduled to coincide with the blooming season of tall bearded iris, other varieties will also be exhibited: standard dwarf, border bearded, Siberian, spuria, aril and more. On display will be the latest introductions of commercial growers, hybridizers' selected seedlings and the finest grown iris blossoms in the Rocky Mountain region. At this year's show no iris will be offered for sale. The iris society will hold its regular rhizome sale at the Gardens next month on Saturday, the 14th.

The June show is in John C. Mitchell II Hall at 1005 York Street. Since Denver Botanic Gardens' collection of modern iris will also be in full bloom, a stroll of the grounds will be in order for your visit. You may wish to seek out some of the species planted in the Rock Alpine Garden, which has the finest collection of species iris in America.

On Saturday the show will be open from 1 to 4:45 p.m.; on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. For information call Tim Kuesel, 420-6806 or Chris Fish 762-1894.



Gardens Adds To Summer Hours

The Gardens will remain open until dusk for an additional day this summer. From Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, Monday has been added to the Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday schedule of evening openings. The Helen Fowler Library will be open during the Wednesday extended hours.

Regular summer gate fees (\$4 for adults and \$2 for those 65 and older and for children 6 through 15) will be in effect for non-members. Call 331-4010 for information on current events throughout the summer.

Anschutz Grant Opens Gardens to Needy Groups

Agencies and organizations serving persons with special needs will be assisted by an Anschutz Family Foundation grant in bringing their clients to Denver Botanic Gardens this summer.

Eight days have been designated for these groups to enter, their admission underwritten by the grant. If you work with an organization that may qualify, contact the development department, 331-4000, Ext. 13, to schedule a day at the Gardens.

Workshop Studies Rose Arranging

The Denver Rose Society will present a workshop at the Gardens Saturday, June 9, on arranging with roses. The workshop will be in two parts, each consisting of a lecture, hands-on designing and a critique by the teacher. Lunch is provided.

To sign up for the \$15 four-hour short course call the instructor, Jo Kendzerski, 987-2333, or society president Joan Franson, 424-3942. They ask that you bring two containers, tools, line material and rose blossoms, if you have them. Some flowers will be provided. Hours will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tributes

In honor of the Silver Anniversary of George and Marvis Ogura

Mrs. Marjorie E. Graves
Joan Smith

In memory of Hal Addington

Mrs. Mary Lou Kidder

In memory of Jane Nelson Bower

Mr. & Mrs. John A. Atkinson

In memory of Caroline Eyler

Bobbie Benton

In memory of Doris B. Lindsay

Dirk & Margaret Ballard
Jean Shaahan

In memory of Dorothy McGlone

Mr. Forrest McGlone

In memory of Sally Wrenn

Bobbie & Field Benton



Green Thumb News Number 90-6 June 1990

Published monthly by the Denver Botanic Gardens education department, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Carolyn Knepp and Larry Latta. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in Denver Botanic Gardens. For membership information, please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000, Ext. 22.

Deadlines for this newsletter are: Major news stories, feature material (including photographs or artwork), and short notes are all due not later than June 21 for August, July 21 for September and August 21 for October.

Late material cannot be used. Stories must be typed, double-spaced, preferably on copy paper provided by the editors. Please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20, for details.





Carol Curtis Appointed Volunteer Coordinator

Carol Curtis joined the staff at the Gardens as Volunteer Coordinator in early April. She has six years of similar on-the-job experience and has been responsible for much volunteer training. Ms. Curtis has worked with groups of all sizes and has taught at Arizona State University. She describes herself as "committed to developing the growth and uniqueness of individuals and the success of non-profit organizations."

Volunteer Guides Lead Tours Throughout the Summer

Groups of school children, scouts, garden clubs, newcomers, artists and photographers visit Denver Botanic Gardens all summer and in the center of each group volunteers are often found. They are joyfully sharing their knowledge of the water lilies, roses, alpine plants and native grasses.

This information is obtained in a series of training classes held at the Gardens; the next series begins Wednesday, July 11, at noon and concludes September 19. Classes meet once a week for three hours in classroom B. Knowledgeable staff and volunteers will meet with new students in the classroom and then proceed outside for an introduction to the various gardens.

You are invited to participate by becoming a tour guide for the Gardens. Tours will be scheduled on weekdays, weekends and occasional evenings through the summer. We hope that many of you will take advantage of this opportunity.

To apply, complete the education department registration form in this newsletter. There is a registration fee of \$25 to cover materials. If you wish additional information about the volunteer guiding program call the edu-

cation department at 331- 4000, Ext. 20.

Kathryn Kawakami Named Outstanding Volunteer

The Denver Teachers Awards Committee honored Kathryn Kawakami with its Outstanding Volunteer for 1990 award at a Marriott Southeast Hotel dinner May 10. Judith Bortz, executive director of Community Resources, Inc., notes, "Ms. Kawakami has spent many hours each year sharing her culture with children in Denver-area schools. Through the Community Resources volunteer program alone she has reached more than 5,000 students over the past 13 years."

Those of you who have noted her gracious presence at the Gardens will share the sentiments of this award. Ms. Kawakami has for years presented Japanese tea ceremonies for the Gardens' adult education program, has talked to innumerable students in the tea house and will participate in the Star Festival in this summer's children's program, "Just for Kids."



Help Wanted

Denver Botanic Gardens has immediate openings for enthusiastic volunteers. Positions are available at the York Street Gardens and at Chatfield Arboretum for families, individuals and groups.

Opportunities exist for apartment dwellers, senior citizens, quiet people, gregarious people, plant enthusiasts, book lovers, people persons, carpenter types, office helpers and sales people.

Jobs range from guiding tours to gardening; historic building restoration to rock alpine gardening; assisting in the library to water gardening; visitor greeting to herb gardening; working in the gift shop to carpentering.

Day, evening and/or weekend help is being sought.

Qualifications: smiling face, positive attitude, dependability, and a desire to make a difference at Denver Botanic Gardens.

Salary: zero to none.

Benefits: beautiful nature-centered environment; work with friendly, enthusiastic staff and volunteers; frequent doses of TLC; opportunities to learn and share.

Apply Now! Call Carol Curtis, volunteer coordinator, at 331- 4000, Ext. 18.

Donations of Shade

Shade is sometimes difficult to find when touring the Gardens and the Colorado sun can create discomfort for visitors unaccustomed to the heat. Therefore we are looking for donations of umbrellas that can be borrowed from our information desk and used as portable shade by people while visiting the Gardens. If you have an umbrella to donate you can bring it in to Carol Curtis, volunteer coordinator, or call 331- 4000, Ext. 18

Tea ceremony hostess Kathryn Kawakami is a special volunteer.

Become a volunteer tour guide — class begins July 11.

continued from page 1

"An Island Garden Revisited." Made possible by a grant from IBM Corporation, it will present nationally known speakers on art and landscape design. The present-day caretaker of Mrs. Thaxter's garden, Virginia Chisholm, will also give her perspective. *The schedule for the series accompanies this article. For reservations, you must call the museum, 640-2265, not the Gardens.*

A program of free watercolor classes, also made possible by a grant from the IBM Corporation, will be held at the Gardens and the Denver Art Museum. Instructor Judy Cuneo-Volz will teach an introduction to Hassam's watercolor and plein air painting. The first session of each series will be at the Denver Art Museum, the second at the Gardens. Materials are provided.

Series 1: Sundays, July 8 and 15 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Series 2: Sundays, July 22 and 29, 2 to 4 p.m.

Series 3: Saturdays, July 28 and August 4, 10 a.m. to noon

Each series is limited to 20 adults (18 and older) and registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. *Please call the museum, 640-2265, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., June 4-6, to register for these joint classes.*

Garden Tours and Displays

Sundays, June through August, at 2 p.m., Denver Botanic Gardens volunteer guides will conduct tours through "The Island Garden of Celia Thaxter." Meet your guides in the Lobby Court for this event; no reservations are required and there's no charge beyond the Gardens' regular non-member gate fee.

While you're in an "old-fashioned" mood you'll also want to visit another new display, "The Language of Flowers." Located on the south side of the Gardens, near the Peony Garden, this exhibit illuminates the Victorian penchant for attributing meaning to different flowers and using them to convey messages without words. From June through August you'll also find a cut-flower display of this floral language in the library.

Classes at the Gardens

To give you insight into the age when Mrs. Thaxter created her garden, several classes have been scheduled by the DBG education department. (Please see the education section of this *Green Thumb News* for details.) On July 7 Dr. Helen Zeiner, honorary curator of the Gardens' Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium, will teach how you can make your personal herbarium. This was a popular hobby during the Victorian era. July 17 Rob Proctor and Angela Overy will

lead tours of both the Island Garden re-creation at the Gardens and the Hassam exhibit at the Art Museum and give you a chance to do your own flower sketches. These popular instructors have taught many art and landscaping classes at the Gardens. Then, on August 21 and 28, Mr. Proctor will lecture on antique flowers.

Museum Tours

In addition, the Art Museum has scheduled regular Wednesday tours of its Hassam exhibit and noon-time mini-lectures.

Mrs. Thaxter loved gardening and flowers. She scratched a front-door

garden from the thin, stony soil of the island, worked the manures from her barnyard animals into the soil year after year, planted and tended dozens of flowers popular in her day and wrote deft descriptions and graceful paeans to their charms. Several kinds of poppies were among her favorites.

Great figures of the New England Enlightenment also immortalized her flowers. The most outstanding tributes were by Hassam, who captured Mrs. Thaxter, her garden and her riot of blossoms in a series of paintings which hang at the peak of American impressionism.



An Island Garden Revisited Lecture Series

A joint program with the Denver Art Museum

Monday, July 9

"Themes from a Summer Place: Childe Hassam at the Isles of Shoals"

David Park Curry, curator of American art and deputy director for collections at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts speaks at the Wyer Auditorium of the Denver Public Library, across Acoma Street from the Denver Art Museum. "Childe Hassam: An Island Garden Revisited" will be open at 5:30 p.m. before the lecture, at the Denver Art Museum.

Monday, July 16

"Late 19th Century Landscape and Garden Design Theory"

Deborah Nevins, landscape designer and historian, will lecture in John C. Mitchell II Hall at Denver Botanic Gardens.

Monday, July 23

"An Aim for Refinement: American Landscape Painting in the 1890s"

Doreen Bolger, curator of paintings and sculpture at the Amon Carter Museum, will speak in John C. Mitchell II Hall, Denver Botanic Gardens.

Monday, July 30

"Celia's Garden"

Virginia Chisholm is the caretaker of Celia Thaxter's Garden on Appledore Island. She will speak in John C. Mitchell II Hall, Denver Botanic Gardens.

"The Island Garden of Celia Thaxter" at the Gardens will be open at 5:30 before the July 16, 23 and 30 lectures.

All lectures are free; reservations are suggested. Lectures are from 8 to 9 p.m. Call 640-2265.

Made possible by a grant from the IBM Corporation.

In the Victorian Tradition: Pressing and Mounting Plants

Saturday, July 14 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium
Teacher: Dr. Helen M. Zeiner

During the Victorian era, making a personal herbarium — a collection of pressed plants — was a popular lady's hobby. View several of these beautiful old volumes and then learn how to press and mount plants correctly. For sentimental or scientific purposes, the techniques are the same.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

A Garden Legacy: Art and Flowers

Tuesday, July 17, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Teachers: Angela Overy and Rob Proctor
Denver Art Museum and DBG

For inspiration, tour the Hassam exhibit at DAM, and then go to the Gardens to see the re-created Island Garden of Celia Thaxter. Following a gourmet box lunch, spend the afternoon drawing flowers in the Victorian tradition. Bring a pencil, eraser, and colored pencils, if you have them. Meet in the DAM lobby.

Fee: \$27 members/\$30 non-members

Enduring Classics: Antique Flowers

Tuesdays, August 21 and 28
7 to 9 p.m. at John C. Mitchell II Hall,
Denver Botanic Gardens
Teacher: Rob Proctor

Discover the flowers that grew in the elegant gardens of kings, humble cottage-dwellers or perhaps your own grandmother. Learn about perennials, annuals, herbs, bulbs and vines appropriate for period gardens. You'll find that antique flowers are easy-to-grow, charming additions to the contemporary landscape.

Fee: \$16 members/\$17.50 non-members

Teachers

Angela Overy received her National Diploma of Design from London University, England. She has lectured and taught extensively.

Rob Proctor is an artist and writer whose book, *Antique Flowers: Perennials*, the first in a series, will be published by Harper & Row in September.

Dr. Helen M. Zeiner is a botanist who serves as Honorary Curator of the Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium at DBG.

Three Societies Stage Wet Weekend At DBG June 9, 10

An unusually wet weekend is planned at the Gardens June 9-10. Three different societies are staging separate events that center on the culture of plants — or fish — in backyard pools or indoor aquariums.

Water Plant Auction: On Sunday, June 10, members of the Colorado Water Garden Society, long-time supporters of the Gardens' acclaimed water plant collection, will hold their annual auction of tropical water lilies. Located in the sunken patio outside the east door of Classroom B, their event will also include the sale of other choice water and water-side plants for your outside pool. Members of the society, one of the most advanced in the nation, will be on hand to help you with your own water gardening program.

The auction begins at 2 p.m. You'll be able to view the plants a half hour earlier. Call auction chairman Rose Swenby, 444-4525, for information.

Japanese Pond Fish: On both Saturday and Sunday the Rocky Mountain Koi Club will hold a show of their prized fish from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day. Koi are a form of spotted "goldfish", long cultivated in Japan, highly valued by aficionados for backyard pond decoration.

A relatively new organization, this society is eager for you to join in the fun by voting for your favorite finned creature for their "People's Choice Award." Their show will be out on the grounds: Look for the colorful banner. For more information call Juergen

Schreiber, 337-2455; Ralph Absetz, 758-5648; or John Coyner, 697-1732.

Aquariums: Concurrent with the koi show, the Colorado Aquarium Society will display the subjects of their watery interest, both fish and plants, in the DBG Lobby Court. Several aquariums devoted solely to the strange tropical plants that live in water will be on exhibit.

This 120-member organization participated in the 1988 National Water Gardening Symposium at the Gardens. President Eric Ramirez, 450-1004, has more information on this show.

This is the first weekend hosted by the Gardens that calls on different societies to present several aspects of the same subject. Come in and enjoy these events, as we get our feet wet in this joint venture. There's no charge to attend any of the events beyond the Gardens' regular non-member gate fees.

Watercolor Art In Mitchell Hall June 30 to July 4

On June 30 through July 4 members of the Colorado Watercolor Society will provide a sale and exhibit of their works in John C. Mitchell II Hall. Mostly representational in style, their art covers many subjects, with an emphasis on floral and landscape motifs.

Hours of the show are 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. each day. For more information call show chairman Babette Wunder, 733-8383, or Ruth Sherbok, 777-5524.



Water lotus in Aquatic Plant Display.

Judy Collins
delighted
audiences at the
1989 summer
concert series.



ListenUp Garden Concert Ticket Information

This is the 10th season of the summer garden concerts and it will be as exciting as in the past. We hope you will join the festivities.

Under separate mailing you should have received the mail-order brochure. Please use this for all mail orders. **Remember:** Phone sales begin June 4 for all concerts. Call KCFR-FM at 744-9999, Monday through Friday, from noon until 6 p.m. A limited number of tickets will be available at the outlets: KCFR-FM, DBG and ListenUp Audio/Visual retail outlets. Outlet sales for the Beausoleil concert (June 21) begin June 4.

The gates open at 6:30 p.m. and all shows begin this year at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, June 21: Beausoleil, **\$5 members/\$7 non-members**

Garrison Keillor (*Prairie Home Companion*) has called them the best Cajun band in the world. Rain date: Friday, June 22, 7:30 p.m. Tickets on sale at outlets June 4.

Friday, July 6: The Persuasions, **\$5 members/\$7 non-members**

You'll love this legendary a cappella/doowop group. Rain date: Saturday, July 7, 10 a.m. Tickets on sale at outlets, June 25.

Thursday and Friday, July 19-20: **Gerry Mulligan and the Gerry** **Mulligan Quartet with the Na-** **tional Repertory Orchestra,** **\$10 members/\$12 non-members**

This group has performed with the

New York Philharmonic to rave reviews. Rain date: Saturday, July 21, 10 a.m. Tickets on sale at outlets July 9.

Thursday, August 2: Yomo Toro, **\$6 members/\$8 non-members**

This famous cuatro player and his Puerto Rican band will perform music commissioned by the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival for "Music of the Americas". Rain date: Saturday, August 4, 10 a.m. Tickets on sale at outlets July 23.

Friday, August 3: Music from the **Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival,** **\$6 member/\$8 non-member**

A quintet from the world-renowned festival will play an evening of classical music. Rain date: Saturday, August 4, 10 a.m. Tickets on sale at outlets July 23.

Thursday and Friday, August 16- **17: The Cleo Parker Robinson** **Dance Ensemble, \$8 members/** **\$10 non-members**

Our favorite dancers will perform an all-gospel program with choir accompaniment. Rain date: Saturday, August 18, 10 a.m. Tickets on sale at outlets August 6.

Thursday and Friday, August 30- **31: The Modern Jazz Quartet,** **\$8 members/\$10 non-members**

The summer will close with elegant jazz renditions. Rain date: Saturday, September 1, 10 a.m. Tickets on sale at outlets August 20.

Young Audiences Schedules Concerts At Gardens

Denver Botanic Gardens is again hosting the Young Audiences Family Performances this summer. In its third year of sponsorship by PACE Membership Warehouse, Inc., the series promises enjoyment for your entire family.

Tuesday, June 26: Peter and the Wolf narrated by Joe Hays, and **Inside the Orchestra**, co-sponsored by the Denver Junior Symphony Guild.

Tuesday, July 10: The Sorcerer's Apprentice and other symphonic characters performed by the Young Audiences Orchestra.

Tuesday, July 24: The Clown Prince performed by the Overland Stage Company.

Concerts begin at 6:30 p.m.; the gate opens at 5:45 p.m. Rain dates for all concerts are the following Sundays, at 10:30 a.m.

Tickets can be purchased at any PACE or at Alfalfa's, Denver Botanic Gardens or the Young Audiences office. They are \$5.00 per concert, \$12.00 for the series. Children under two are admitted free. To charge tickets on your Visa, MasterCard or Choice cards or for more information call 825-3465.

Young Audiences, PACE and Denver Botanic Gardens are pleased to bring fine musical performances to children and their families. All tickets are general seating so come early, bring a picnic supper and enjoy a delightful evening of entertainment.

Just for Kids

Kids and summer are naturals as are kids and bugs and plants. At Denver Botanic Gardens all of these combinations will occur and we hope your children will be part of the fun.

Children of ages 3 to 11 will discover the mystery and excitement of plants and animals this summer in the "Just for Kids" series of fun classes.

There will be "Bugs, Bugs, Bugs," "The Shy and Gentle Bat," "One Big Happy Family" and more. Classes begin June 18 and conclude August 3.

A brochure describing the classes was mailed to members in May. Be sure to complete the registration form and return it to the Gardens quickly. Registrations will be confirmed. For additional details call 331-4000, Ext. 20.



San Francisco Trip for Members in October

Denver Botanic Gardens members will tour San Francisco and the exciting bay area in October. Sponsored by DBG, the trip will include guided visits to public and private gardens and opportunities to sample the abundant cultural activities in the premier fun city of the Pacific Coast.

Some of the stops on the itinerary are the 17-acre gardens of Fioli, an estate famous for its walled and rose gardens, perennial borders and a knot garden; the botanic gardens at the University of California at Berkeley; the Rodin Sculpture Garden at Stanford; and the Japanese garden of Strybing Arboretum. Members will also visit the gardens and test kitchens of Sunset Magazine, the Jordon Winery and Muir Woods and have lunch at the beautiful Chateau Souverain.

Dates for the trip are October 2 through 7. There are limited seats for this tour; tickets will sell fast. For more information call Barbara Baldwin, 778-7292, or Knobby Brown, 832-6175.

Photographer Derek Fell Comes to Denver June 16

In a three-day flower festival at the Denver Art Museum called "Flowers and Art," well-known photographer Derek Fell will lecture and conduct a workshop. "Flowers and Art," scheduled for June 14 to 16, features lectures, demonstrations and, on the last two days, museum galleries filled with judged and invitational floral arrangements.

The festival includes a patron luncheon, gala opening night and lectures. DBG members may be especially interested in Mr. Fell's program, "The Gardens of Versailles, Monet, and Renoir," which will be held Saturday, June 16 at 10 a.m. at Wyer Auditorium of the Denver Public Main Library, 1357 Broadway. Members of DBG or the Denver Art Museum will be charged \$5; the non-member fee is \$7.

Following the lecture, at 2 p.m., Mr. Fell will conduct a photographic workshop at Denver Botanic Gardens. Space is limited and the fee is \$25. To register for either activity or for additional information on "Flowers and Art," please call Penny Barnow at the Denver Art Museum at 640-3899.

Roxborough State Park: The South Rim Trail

Saturday, June 9
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Walk the moderate three-mile South Rim Trail to see late-spring wildflowers at Roxborough State Park. The park is located in a transition zone where the plains meet the mountains and contains a unique combination of prairie and montane species.

Please wear comfortable walking shoes and bring your lunch and drinking water in a day-pack. (The day-pack is essential because there are no picnic facilities at the park.)

Meet: at the park visitors center promptly at 10 a.m. Please note that there is a \$4 admission fee for each car entering the park.

Instructor: Bob Heapes

Fee: \$5.50 members/\$6 non-members

Limit: 20

Field Trip to Golden Gate Canyon State Park

Saturday, June 16
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This park contains the best array of foothills wildflowers in the Denver vicinity. Many late spring flowers will be blooming.

Join us on a leisurely walk in the Old Barn Knoll area and brush up on your identification skills. Don't forget your picnic lunch.

Leader: Dick Schwendinger has been leading field trips throughout North America for over 25 years.

Meet: promptly at 10 a.m. at the park's Nature Center. (Call the education department at 331-4000, extension 20, if you need directions.)

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members. Each car entering the park must purchase a daily user pass in addition to the field trip fee.

Limit: 15

Trip to Corona Pass Tundra

Saturday, July 7
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visit one of the most spectacular passes in the Front Range, where you will observe tundra ecology and wildflowers, as well as man's influence on this high mountain environment. Follow the abandoned railroad to the abandoned hotel at the top of the pass, and you will see ancient Indian game-drive fences on this high altitude field trip.

Bring lunch, rain gear and a sweat-

ter; bring plant guides and a hand lens if you have them.

Meet: promptly at 8 a.m. at the north-east parking lot of the Rock Cut (I-70 at Exit 259).

Instructor: Paul Kilburn, Ph.D., has taught botany and ecology in Colorado for many years.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 18

Field Trip to Rocky Mountain National Park

(one session)

Saturday, July 14
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Explore the rich woods surrounding two of the prettiest, most accessible lakes in the park. The leader is especially fond of the wild orchids and, with lunch, the group should find several of these, including the elusive little purple lady's slipper, *Cypripedium fasciculatum*. Don't forget your lunch.

Leader: Dick Schwendinger

Meet: promptly at 10 a.m. at the Moraine Park Visitor Center. Please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20, if you need directions. Each car entering the park must purchase a daily user pass in addition to the field trip fee.

Fee: \$5.00 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 15

Field Trip to Mount Goliath

Saturday, July 21
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tundra flowers hold a special fascination for both amateur and professional botanists. Mount Goliath is an exceptional place to observe them. Carpets of dainty wildflowers are complemented by grand mountain vistas and the sculptured, grizzled beauty of the bristlecone pines.

Join two experienced field trip leaders and walk the M. Walter Pesman Trail, a winding 1.5-mile downhill path at 12,100 feet. Please bring your lunch, drinking water and jacket and wear comfortable walking shoes.

Leaders: Bob Heapes is an enthusiastic field trip leader. Loraine Yeatts volunteers in the herbarium and is also a popular field trip leader.

Meet: between 7:45 and 8 a.m. in the main DBG parking lot.

Fee: \$17.50 members/\$20 non-members (includes Janet L. Wingate's illustrated brochure, *Wildflowers of Mount Goliath*, as well as bus transportation.)

Limit: 45

CTA SITES

Summer
1990
Denver Botanic Gardens



Guanella Pass Ecology

(two sessions)

Monday, July 23, 6 to 8:30 p.m.
Morrison Center at DBG and
Saturday, July 28, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Field Trip

The botany of Guanella Pass near Georgetown will be emphasized in this course, but participants will also learn about the animals that inhabit the region.

In the slide lecture, plant and animal adaptations at this high elevation will be discussed. Snow-lover, Parry primrose, alpine avens and chiming bells are just a few of the tundra flowers to be seen on the field trip. Bring a lunch, drinking water and dress for changeable weather.

Instructors: Tina Jones studied alpine ecosystems at the University of Colorado Mountain Research station. Karen Trout works as a dryland plant gardener for Denver Botanic Gardens.

Fee: \$15 members/\$16.50 non-members

Limit: 18

Rose Garden Walk

(one session)

Section I: Tuesday, June 12
10 to 11 a.m.
Section II: Tuesday, June 19
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

What could be better than a June morning in a rose garden? This walk will lead you through the collection in the May Bonfils Stanton Memorial Rose Garden.

Meet: at the pergola (open shelter in garden) in the rose garden.

Instructor: Joann Narverud

Fee: \$4 members/\$4.50 non-members

Limit: 18

Lily Garden Walk

(one session)

Section I: Saturday, June 16
Section II: Tuesday, June 19
10 to 11 a.m.

Orange Pixie, Stargazer, Thunderbolt, Zephyr, Journey's End, Green Magic, Fire Dancer and Black Dragon — these are all cultivar names for lilies that grow along our lily path. This guided walk introduces visitors to the delights of the true lily and shows how it can create special effects in a garden.

Meet: in Sunken Garden just a few steps inside DBG entrance.

Instructor: An avid gardener, Joann Narverud is the grounds foreman.

Fee: \$4 members/\$4.50 non-members

Limit: 18

Perennial Walk

(one session)

Section I: Tuesday, June 19
Section II: Thursday, July 12
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and
5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

These evening strolls through the perennial plantings at Denver Botanic Gardens will provide an opportunity to closely observe these marvelously versatile plants. An experienced perennial grower, Mr. Pierce will offer insight on growth and culture that you can incorporate into your own gardening. An informal question-and-answer approach is planned.

Instructor: Andrew Pierce

Meet: promptly at 5:30 p.m. outside the education building lobby

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 20

Xeriscape and Plains Gardens Walk

(one session)

Section I: Wednesday, July 18
Section II: Saturday, July 21

9:30 to 11 a.m.
Xeriscape Garden

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Both of these gardens suggest alternatives to traditional styles of gardening for the arid west. The Xeriscape Demonstration Garden includes rare and endangered species of xeric plants. The plains garden is an area of native grasses and other prairie plants; it recreates seven plant systems of the Colorado high plains.

Meet: at the picnic tables at the north end of the xeriscape garden.

Instructor: Karen Trout is the DBG gardener who maintains these two gardens and is an active member of the Colorado Native Plant Society.

Fee: \$6 members/\$8 non-members

Limit: 20

Fathers Day at the Arboretum

(one session)

Sunday, June 17
9 a.m. to Dusk
Polly Steele Nature Center at
Chatfield Arboretum

Celebrate Fathers Day at the arboretum with your family. Enjoy the picnic facilities, nature trails, playground and special activities at the nature center. All fathers will be granted a free motorized guided-tour. These excursions leave the visitor center on the hour and on the half-

hour starting at 9 a.m. and will run until 6:30 p.m.

Leader: Volunteer naturalist-guides will lead the motorized guided tours and activities at the nature center.

Fee: Non-member adults are \$2 each (includes \$1 entrance fee). All fathers and children (under 16 years of age) are free.

Low Water Plants for Beautiful Gardens

(six sessions)

Wednesdays, July 25, August 1, 8,
15, 22, 29
7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Classroom C

Xeriscape is far more than yuccas and gravel! A water-conserving landscape can have seasonal color and plentiful flowers and still be easily maintained.

Slides will give you an in-depth look at approximately 150 trees, shrubs, vines and ground covers that are available in the Denver area. A discussion of their form, foliage, flower, fruit and function will enable you to select choice plants for your garden. Attractive groupings and combinations will also be addressed.

Instructor: Alan Rollinger is a professional landscape designer specializing in residential planning. A graduate of CSU, he has completed over 800 landscape projects in Colorado. He designed the garden that received the 1985 Xeriscape Award.

Fee: \$48 members/\$53 non-members

Identifying Wildflowers for Beginners

(one session)

Saturday, July 7 1 to 4 p.m.
Herbarium

Learn how to key out your favorite wildflowers and how to identify some you like but do not know the names of. This introductory class will be an asset to your summer hikes. Bring to class any wildflower guides you might have for this region and a hand lens (if you have one).

Instructor: Dr. Helen Zeiner taught botany at the University of Denver and is the volunteer curator of the Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium at the Gardens.

Fee: \$12 members/\$14 non-members

Limit: 16



Local Wild Plants for Food and Medicine

Saturday, June 9
9 a.m. to noon
Polly Steele Nature Center at Chatfield Arboretum

Learn which local plants have been used for food and medicine. After a short introductory slide show, the class will take a leisurely stroll through the Kim Sterne Survival Garden to learn to identify several of these plants.

Instructor: Tammi Morgan has been studying and growing herbs for more than 11 years. She also owns and operates White Rabbit Herbs in Arvada.

Fee: \$12 members/\$14 non-members

Limit: 20

Arranging Lessons with Fresh Flowers

(four sessions)

Mondays, July 16, 23, 30, August 6
9 a.m. to noon Classroom B

Summer is the perfect time to learn how to make floral arrangements to complement a favorite spot in your home. Students will learn how to select and cut fresh flowers for arrangements that will be prepared in class.

Please bring two containers (no glass or silver), clippers, scissors or knife, a large bucket with a handle for gathering flowers and two needle-point flower holders (available in the DBG Gift Shop). All other materials, including flowers, will be provided.

Instructor: Avalonne Kosanke is a master flower judge for the National Council of State Garden Clubs and has over 25 years of teaching experience.

Fee: \$55 members/\$60 non-members (includes a \$7 materials fee).

Limit: 15

Dry It. You'll Like It.

(two sessions)

Tuesdays, July 24, 31
9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Classroom B

Dahlias, zinnias, roses and black-eyed Susans are among the flowers whose beauty you will learn to preserve in silica gel in this class. Students will select and dry garden and roadside flowers for use in winter arrangements.

Please bring two plastic shoe boxes with lids, a small plastic bucket with a handle, scissors, clippers, wire cutters and a small three-pound coffee can with lid. All other materials, including flowers, will be provided.

Instructor: Avalonne Kosanke

Fee: \$31 members/\$33 non-members (includes a \$15 materials fee)

Limit: 20

Mushroom Identification

(two sessions)

Saturday, June 2, 9
Classroom C
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and
Optional Field Trips from
1:30 to 3:30 p.m. each day.

This course is for beginners and will provide a foundation for those who may wish to pursue the subject in more depth in the future. Spring-fruiting mushrooms of the city as well as the summer-fruiting species of the high country will be covered.

Two slide-lecture sessions cover structure, growth, habitat, seasonality, toxicity and edibility of mushrooms. The use of field guides and keys will be demonstrated and recommendations will be given on those most useful in our area.

An optional field trip to areas near the Gardens will be scheduled in the afternoon of each session. Those planning to attend should bring a sack lunch.

Instructor: Marilyn Shaw lectures and teaches extensively and has been active in the Colorado Mycological Society for 16 years.

Fee: \$32 members/\$35 non-members

Grow Your Own Mushrooms

(one session)

Saturday, July 14
12:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Morrison Center (2320 East 11th Ave.)

Mushrooms are like flowers or fruits as they also provide a means of propagating the next generation. One "plant" will produce a few or many mushrooms, depending on conditions. Cultivating mushrooms at home is similar to growing green plants. The right conditions must be provided with appropriate culture requirements.

You will take home plates inoculated from stock cultures and fresh mushrooms. Written directions will be distributed, so you will be prepared to begin your adventure of growing mushrooms at home.

Instructor: Steven Smith is an active member of the Colorado Mycological Society, of which he has been vice-president for the past two years, and has taught several mushroom-growing classes through the society.

Fee: \$21 members/\$24 non-members (includes \$5 for materials)

Limit: 12

Ecology of Colorado

- Session 2: Colorado Grass-land
Saturday, June 9,
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 3: Colorado Wetlands
Saturday, June 16
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 4: Waterton Canyon
Saturday, June 23,
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 5: Two Forks Dam
Saturday, June 30,
9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Session 6: Roxborough State Park
Saturday, July 7
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 7: Red Rocks
Saturday, July 14
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 8: Genesee Park
Saturday, July 21
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 9: Mount Evans
Saturday, July 28
9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Session 10: Rocky Mountain National Park
Saturday, August 4
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Classes meet at Chatfield Arboretum Visitor Center.

After a short group discussion, you will car pool and drive to the destination. The field trips will usually involve short stops at points of ecological interest before we get to our final destination. Bring a sack lunch, hat, jacket, rain gear, good hiking shoes, camera and water to each session.

Denver Botanic Gardens members and guests may sign up for one or more sections of the series without college tuition. Please pay your Denver Botanic Gardens fees to DBG. You must be preregistered for the trips. Call the education department, 331- 4000, Ext. 20, for additional information.

Ecology of Colorado is a college credit course offered by Arapahoe Community College. College credit is available through ACC by paying regular tuition for this three-credit course and attending all class sessions. Call instructor Jim Trammell at 797-5841 (office) or 795-5843 (home) for additional information on college credit registration.

Instructor: Jim Trammell teaches at Arapahoe Community College and is a naturalist at Chatfield Arboretum.

Fee: \$10 members/\$11 non-members per class session. Additional transportation costs and entrance fees are shared with the driver.

Limit: 10 per class session

Professionalize Your Natural History Presentation

Saturday, June 16
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Classroom C

The equipment and the talk — each are of equal importance for a successful slide presentation. If your slide collection is monumental, even after editing, but you've been unable to develop a polished presentation for garden clubs and other groups, then this workshop is for you.

The morning session deals with the variety of equipment available. Following lunch, it's the talk. Do you need a good story or do your slides tell it? What is the title? If you must stand alone without a podium, what props can you use?

Instructor: Bob Heapes is a popular field trip leader and speaker who has lectured throughout the United States. His photographs have been published in *Colorado Homes and Lifestyles*, *Pacific Horticulture*, *Horticulture*, and *Flower and Garden*.

Fee: \$24 members/\$27 non-members (includes a box lunch)

Photography and Botanical Illustration Field Trip

Thursday, June 28
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This is a field trip to the historic Evans Ranch, near Evergreen, for students of photography or botanical illustration. Established in 1868, this 3,200-acre ranch has a spectacular view of Mount Evans and a lush collection of mountain wildflowers. Beginners to experts are all welcome.

Wear sturdy walking shoes and remember to bring rain gear, a sack lunch, drinking water and your own drawing materials or photography equipment.

Suggested photographic equipment consists of: Kodachrome film (ASA 25 or 64), tripod and macro-lens or three-ring lenses. Suggested drawing materials are: drawing pad and pencils, magnifying glass and watercolors or colored pencils.

Meet: 9 a.m. at east side of El Rancho parking lot off of I-70, exit 252.

Instructors: Bob Heapes is an experienced field trip leader, nature photographer and popular lecturer. Angela Overy received her National Diploma of Design and designed in London, New York and San Francisco before settling in Denver.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

Limit: 15 photographers and 15 illustrators.

Beginning Bonsai

(four sessions)

Wednesdays, July 11, 18, 25 and August 1
7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Classroom B

This popular introductory course will cover the history and cultural techniques of bonsai, the art of creating dwarf trees and shrubs. Instruction on styling, training, potting and care of bonsai will be included.

Each student will take a completed bonsai home and all materials will be provided.

Instructor: Keith Jeppson, past president of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society, is an experienced bonsai hobbyist of 17 years. Harold Sasaki is a commercial bonsai grower with 18 years of experience. Both are lively, capable and popular teachers.

Fee: \$54 members/\$59 non-members (includes \$22 for materials)

Limit: 16

Wildflower Photography Lecture

(one session)

Wednesday, July 18
7 to 9:30 p.m.
John C. Mitchell II Hall

Sharpen your sense of composition and photographic techniques while learning the fine art of wildflower photography from a nationally recognized expert. This comprehensive and beautiful presentation is open to wildflower lovers as well as photographers and will cover the following topics: finding flowers, selective gardening, plant protection equipment, lighting, backdrops, uses of depths of field, filters, films, metering, composition and special effects.

Instructor: John D. Smithers is the owner of DeHart Media, an award-winning firm in Austin, Texas, and holds a master's degree in radio-television-film from the University of Texas.

Fee: \$12 members/\$14 non-members

Wildflower Photography Workshop

(two sessions)

Students must attend the lecture on Wednesday, July 18 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. and may choose either
Section I: Saturday, July 21
Section II: Sunday, July 22
6:30 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 9 p.m.

Please indicate your section on the registration form

Learn the fine art of wildflower

Alpine Ecology

(two sessions: one lecture, one field trip)

Wednesday, July 18
7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classroom A and
Saturday, July 21 (Field Trip)
7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The treeless tundra dominating the landscape above timberline is actually a kaleidoscope of 20 or more separate plant communities in their unique ecological niche. The communities range from the windswept fell fields, harboring cushion plants like moss campion and nailwort; to the black sedge-marsh marigold wetlands.

This course introduces the student to the ecology of this unique but abundant Colorado Rocky Mountain habitat with a single lecture followed by an all day field trip to Hoosier Pass above Breckenridge.

Instructor: Paul Kilburn, Ph.D., has taught tundra ecology in Colorado for many years.

Fee: \$15 members/\$16.50 non-members

photography in this hands-on workshop. Participants will attend the Wednesday evening lecture and will then photograph flowers at Denver Botanic Gardens bright and early when the light is best on either Saturday or Sunday morning.

After their slide film is developed, students will reconvene for critiques in the evening. The instructor promises that this immediate feedback is a very effective learning tool that is also exciting and fun.

The following materials are required: one 35mm camera with a macro lens and a carrying bag, and one tripod, preferably one that can be lowered close to the ground. In addition, please bring these items, if you have them: normal, ringlight or standard flash unit with remote sensor; 18 percent reflectant gray card; lens extension tubes or bellows; kneepads; small atomizer for spraying "dew" on flowers; polarizing and 81-A filters for your favorite lens; and a shutter release cable.

Please note that students should already have a good working knowledge of their camera.

Workshops are co-sponsored by the National Wildflower Research Center and Eastman Kodak Company, Professional Photography Division.

Instructor: John D. Smithers

Fee: \$70 members/\$74 non-members (this includes two rolls of 36-exposure slide film and processing)

Limit: 15 per section

Japanese Tea Ceremony

Section VIII: Sunday, July 8
Section IX: Saturday, July 21
Section X: Saturday, August 4
Section XI: Sunday, August 19
(one session)

2 to 3 p.m.
Tea House in DBG's Japanese Garden

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Because of its emphasis on such concepts as harmony, respect, purity, tranquility and elegant simplicity, the tea ceremony has for centuries been considered the epitome of Japanese life. This is an opportunity to experience an authentic tea ceremony in the quiet splendor of our Japanese Garden.

Instructor: Kathryn Kawakami has done much to inform Denver-area residents and students about the culture of Japan.

Fee: \$4.50 members/\$5 non-members
Limit: 15

Paint on Fabrics — Summer Projects

Saturday, June 16
Noon to 3:30 p.m. Classroom B

Create a personalized tablecloth and set of napkins, a stylish T-shirt, summer dress or beach bag using abstract floral patterns and acrylic paints.

Each student will leave with a completed project. Please bring a tightly woven, plain tablecloth and matching napkins, a plain totebag or cotton knit item of clothing. Any color will work. Time will allow for completion of one or two projects, depending upon their size. Also bring a large jar for water, hard toothbrush and any paint-brushes you might feel like using. The

instructor will provide acrylic paints and the found objects from her “junk box.”

Students from age 12 up are encouraged to participate. No previous experience is necessary.

Instructor: Marilyn Schmidt is an artist and fabric designer and a master teacher at the Denver Art Museum. She has taught many popular sweatshirt art classes and has exhibited her work around the state.

Fee: \$22 members/\$25 non-members (including \$8 for materials)

Limit: 12

Beginning Watercolor Painting

(one session)

Saturday, June 30 9 a.m. to noon
Polly Steele Nature Center at Chatfield Arboretum

Learn the basics of composition, techniques and materials of landscape painting with watercolors.

You should bring a 3/4-inch flat brush, #5 and #9 round brushes, stubby stencil brush and cake or tube watercolors. Also bring a wide-mouth container for water, a small sponge and a soft rag. Paper will be provided during the class.

Instructor: Frank Shupe, naturalist-guide at the arboretum and retired Denver Public Schools art teacher has taught and exhibited in the Denver area.

Fee: \$14 members/\$16 non-members (includes \$2 for materials)

Limit: 12



Watercolor Painting

(five sessions)

Section I: Mondays, July 9, 16, 23, 30, August 6
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Section II: Wednesdays, July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 8
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Section III: Wednesdays, July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 8
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Morrison Center at Denver Botanic Gardens, 2320 E. 11th Avenue

Explore the sparkle and delicacy of watercolor painting while enjoying the natural setting of Denver Botanic Gardens. This course will cover the basic materials and techniques of watercolors with emphasis on freedom of personal expression.

Come prepared with supplies. You'll need: a one-inch flat brush, #10 round brush, watercolor paper, tissues, container for water, plastic palette and cake or tube watercolors.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky currently teaches art history, watercolor painting and oil painting at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, and he displays his work at Inkfish Art Gallery. He is a graduate of the University of Kharkov and the Art College of Kharkov, U.S.S.R.

Fee: \$60 members/\$66 non-members
Limit: 15



Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
Fees for courses should be paid in advance by charge, check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your payment is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

Enclosed is _____ to cover the registration fees for the following classes:
Name and section of class(es) _____

Name _____
Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Member ID _____
(on top line of newsletter address label)
Address _____
City _____ ZIP code _____
Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____
Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐
_____ Exp. _____
Signature _____

JULY

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies

A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a **general** indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switchboard during business hours at 331-4000.

African Violet Society, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society**, 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society**, 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club**, 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society**, 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers**, 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society**, 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International**, 4th Fri.; **Iris Society**, spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club**, 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society**, 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society**, 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society**, 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club**, 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society**, 2nd Sun. of 5 months.

*First meeting of a class with more than one session

3

Iris Society Show, Tea Ceremony

10

Water Plant Auction, Japanese Pond Fish Show

17

Bonsai Show, Tea Ceremony

24

July 1-4 Watercolor Show
July 6 Garden Concert

4

11

18

The Shy and Gentle Bat*

25

One Big Happy Family*

5

12

Rose Garden Walk

19

Lily Path Garden Walk, Perennial Walk

26

Young Audiences Concert

6

13

20

27

July 8 Tea Ceremony
July 9 Island Garden Revisited Lecture, Watercolor Painting*, Seeds & Shoots
July 10 Young Audiences Concert
July 11 Watercolor Painting*, Beginning Bonsai*

7

14

21

Garden Concert

28

Photography & Botanical Illustration Field Trip

8

15

22

29

July 12 Perennial Walk
July 14 Field Trip to Rocky Mountain National Park, Grow Your Own Mushrooms
July 16 Bugs, Bugs, Bugs*, Under the Canopy* Island Garden Revisited Lecture, Arranging Lessons with Fresh Flowers*

9

16

Paint on Fabrics, Field Trip to Golden Gate Canyon, Bonsai Show

23

30

Beginning, Watercolor Painting, Watercolor Show

July 17 A Garden Legacy: Art and Flowers
July 18 Alpine Ecology*, Wildflower Photography Lecture

Coming Next Month

July 1-4 Watercolor Show

July 6 Garden Concert

July 7 Identifying Wildflowers, Trip to Corona Pass, Pressing & Mounting Plants

July 8 Tea Ceremony

July 9 Island Garden Revisited Lecture, Watercolor Painting*, Seeds & Shoots

July 10 Young Audiences Concert

July 11 Watercolor Painting*, Beginning Bonsai*

July 12 Perennial Walk

July 14 Field Trip to Rocky Mountain National Park, Grow Your Own Mushrooms

July 16 Bugs, Bugs, Bugs*, Under the Canopy* Island Garden Revisited Lecture, Arranging Lessons with Fresh Flowers*

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.

909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
303-331-4000

Address correction requested

TIME VALUE

June 1990



Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 205
Denver, CO

Garden Paths Lead To Heritage, Ancient Flowers and Foods

It's decidedly fashionable these days to be old-fashioned. Renewed interests in the cottage style flower border and efforts toward "natural" wildflower gardening (in this region, often taking on a distinct prairie look) are encouraged by newly released books, charmingly written seed catalog offerings and even the rise of seed and nursery companies dedicated to old-fashioned or native plants.

If you have yet to retreat from 20th-century horticulture at your house, you can step back in time here at the Gardens by taking a stroll down nearly any path. Special displays throughout the grounds harken to other years.

"The Island Garden of Celia Thaxter," along the east edge of the main water lily pool, is a revealing re-creation of an actual 19th-century personal flower garden. The entrance to the main lobby also has a Victorian flavor, with palms, bamboos, aroids and a riot of other tropicals set out to greet you. "The Language of Flowers," both outdoors (near the Peony Garden) and indoors (in the library), illustrates another interesting floral tradition.

Vegetables, too, go out of fashion, though usually not because of some change in aesthetic. Older varieties yield to "new and improved" ones. Of course they are improved, often as not, for the benefit of the growers or shippers, not of us eaters. There is a wonderful movement worldwide, however, to find, reinvestigate and enjoy plant foods of past eras, even of lost or nearly-lost civilizations.

The Vegetable Demonstration Garden this year is planted with heritage varieties, all of which enjoyed popularity at least half a century ago. You can see bean, tomato, pepper and cabbage strains your grandfather may have encountered as "new and improved."

Even more fascinating, though, is a small planting near the Herb Garden of truly ancient foods. These are beans, squashes, corns and amaranths that have survived for hundreds of years, cultivated by Native Americans of the southwestern part of North America. Some have been saved from extinction only by careful husbandry in the gardens of small towns, even single families, in the canyons and deserts that fostered their evolutionary paths as species. Containing in their genes an inherent ability to persevere through deprivation of chemical assistance and supplemental irrigation, the value of these vegetables has nothing to do with fashion. They are of incalculable worth to the future of horticulture.

Green Thumb



Inside:

*Iris Sale
page 3*

*Watercolor
Show
page 3*

*Daylily Show
and Sale
page 4*

*Landscape
Design Tour
page 4*

NEWS

**Denver Botanic Gardens
July 1990
Number 90-7**



*Master
photographer
John D.
Smithers will
help you focus
your wildflower
photo skills.
(p. 3)*

What's missing in this picture? A friendly guide to help the children understand. Could it be you?



Volunteer Guides Needed

Become a volunteer tour guide for Denver Botanic Gardens this summer. Commit yourself to afternoons in the sun surrounded by starflowers, monkey flowers, basil, lamb's ears and giggling children. The happiest faces at the Gardens are worn by volunteer guides who have just led a rewarding tour for enthusiastic children.

It's easy to become a guide. Classes are held on Wednesday afternoons (noon to 3:00 p.m.) beginning July 11 and ending September 19. Registra-

tion is only \$25 and you can apply by completing the education department registration form in this newsletter.

To qualify you need to have the time to donate, the willingness to share your love for the Gardens, and the desire to work with people. You should also have a ready smile.

Tours will be held weekdays, some evenings and some weekends. Schedules are flexible. Call 331-4000, Ext. 20 for more information.

DBG Plants Color in Five Points

DBG helped some Five Points businesses plant a touch of color in their near-downtown commercial district. It's a cooperative venture with United Bank of Denver, the Five Points Business Association, Commonwealth Property Management and San Rafael Business Association.

On Saturday, June 9, volunteers planted nearly 40 half-barrels between 26th and 28th Streets on Welton Street with flowers unsold from the Gardens' annual sale. The project was the brainchild of United Banks of Colorado vice-president and director of marketing Candice Rogers, who is a member of the Denver Botanic Gardens public relations and marketing subcommittee.

Tributes

In memory of Joseph Kofko

Associates of Denver Botanic Gardens

In memory of Frederick Lang

David and Lois Ferguson

In memory of Robert Lee McDonough

Howard and Sherry Engleberg

In memory of Helene Rush

Mr. and Mrs. William B. Collister

In memory of Robert Uyeda

Solange G. Gignac and Alan F. Huggins
Marie and Michael Orlin

In memory of Elizabeth H. Woodruff

Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Crowther

In memory of Mrs. Alice Writer

James E. Stokes

The Year in Pictures: 1989 Annual Report Available To Members

The centerfold "1989 Annual Report To Members" in this issue of the *Green Thumb News* is a four-page excerpt of the report prepared by the Gardens for corporations, foundations and other donor friends who want to keep up to date on our activities and our fiscal standing. As is the body of the complete report, this newsletter excerpt is printed on 50 percent recycled paper. Unfortunately, postage costs make it prohibitive to mail a complete 24-page *1989 Annual Report* to each member of the Gardens. However you may pick up a copy — and you're encouraged to do so — in the administration building at 909 York Street.

The report's colorful exterior encloses a wealth of information: a complete list of donors who contributed to the Gardens' well-being last year (perhaps your name is on it); lists of the Board of Trustees and the Gardens staff; an informative map of the Front Range that locates DBG's various sites, including its nature areas and outdoor mountain laboratories; a valuable directory of DBG's facilities; and 12 pages of photos showing some of the important and fun scenes from the year in review.

Plant Sale Thank You

The most important component of a successful event is the volunteers. The 41st Plant and Used Book Sale was a smashing success thanks to the many hours of hard work and deep commitment of its 700 non-paid workers.

A public thank you to the Pre-sale Party committee: You did a terrific job in putting together the kick-off for this sale. You brought nearly 500 people together for early shopping and an evening of fun.

And thanks to the 36 division heads who ordered the right plants, made sure your areas were set up attractively and conveniently, recruited proficient volunteers and coordinated so many details. Without you it could not have happened.

Thank you, also to the 650 volunteers who answered questions, potted plants, set up areas, pushed carts, served coffee, sorted books and much, much more.

A very special thank you to the co-chairmen, Rob Proctor and Jane Davis. Rob, thanks for assuming the responsibility for the sale again this year and for all the valuable input and talent you gave. Jane, thank you for all your efforts that made life with the Plant and Used Book Sale much easier. It will be a delight to have you assume the duties as Chairman for 1991.

Now, as we wrap up the 1990 "Flowering of Denver," the work begins for 1991. We hope to see you all back again for next year's Plant and Used Book Sale.

Linda Brancato
Development Assistant

Green Thumb News Number 90-7 July 1990

Published monthly by the Denver Botanic Gardens education department, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Carolyn Knepp and Larry Latta. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in Denver Botanic Gardens. For membership information, please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000, Ext. 22.

Deadlines for this newsletter are: Major news stories, feature material (including photographs or artwork), and short notes are all due not later than July 21 for September, August 20 for October and September 20 for November.

Late material cannot be used. Stories must be typed, double-spaced, preferably on copy paper provided by the editors. Please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 42, for details.



Accredited by the
American Association
of Museums



Watercolor Show Continues Through July 4

Through Wednesday, July 4, the Gardens will once again be one of the best places in town to pick up reasonably priced, quality watercolor paintings, as the Colorado Watercolor Society continues its show and sale in John C. Mitchell II Hall.

Late information to the *News* reveals that no theme was set for this year's show. Chairman Evelyn Lail expects this to allow juror Bill Condit, watercolorist, former advertising artist and author of a recent book on transparent watercolor, to jury into the show a wide range of good works.

The exhibit and sale will be open during the Gardens' evening hours on Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Wednesday, as well as during the regular daytime hours, 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. For more information call 277-0727.

Photography Workshop at Vail

John Shaw, nature photographer and author of *Visions of the Wild*, *The Nature Photographer's Complete Guide* and *John Shaw's Closeups in Nature*, will conduct a workshop at The Vail Alpine Garden July 21, 22 and 23. This workshop will benefit the Betty Ford Alpine Gardens. Registration of \$795 includes four nights lodging, most meals, local transportation, slide lecture and field experience. For additional information write or call Vail Alpine Garden, 183 Gore Creek Drive, Vail, CO 81657, 303-476-0103.

McDonalds Evening of Family Entertainment

"Kids and the Environment" will be an evening of family fun and hands-on learning presented by McDonalds

Restaurants and DBG on Wednesday, July 11. Conservation and recycling will be featured in demonstrations geared to children of all ages.

Bring your family and a picnic supper to the Gardens to learn more about the environment and what you can do to help preserve and improved it. The activities will be between 4 and 8 p.m. As a member you can enjoy the evening free; for non-members the regular gate fee will be in effect.

Iris Society Sale to Offer Newest and Best

On Saturday, July 14, American Iris Society Region 20 members will sell freshly dug rhizomes from their Colorado gardens, many of which were the award-winning iris seen at the DBG show in June. Their sale will be staged in the sunken patio area just inside the Gardens' front entrance gate. It begins at 10 a.m. and continues until the plants are sold out.

A strong motivation to share the joy of iris keeps the prices for this sale reasonable. Proceeds go to the American Iris Society and Denver Botanic Gardens to promote the culture and improvement of iris. For more information call either of the co-chairmen: Roy Krug or Jess Quintana, 237-7727.

Wildflower Workshop Brings Photography Master to the Gardens

This summer you will have an opportunity to perfect your wildflower photography techniques under the guidance of a master. The National Wildflower Research Center and Eastman Kodak Company, Professional Photography Division, are sponsoring a wildflower photography workshop at the Gardens that will include a preparatory evening lecture, a

three-hour photo shoot and a follow-up session of professional criticism. The instant feedback method is sure to improve your picture taking immediately.

The master photographer for this workshop is John D. Smithers, former photographer and audio-visual producer for the Austin, Texas based research center. Today he is a published authority and internationally touring lecturer on wildflower photography.

The preparatory lecture, the evening of Wednesday, July 18, is open to all nature photography enthusiasts. It will be a comprehensive, three-hour presentation using four projectors and two screens to cover all aspects of camera technique, selecting your subject and getting the most out of your film.

The weekend workshops July 21 or 22 are limited to just a few students each. You will have an intense hands-on morning photography session (film included) under Smithers' close guidance. Then you and the instructor will get together in the evening after your film is processed to go over your efforts.

Registration is necessary for either the Wednesday lecture or the workshop. See the class schedule in this newsletter for details. Take advantage of this chance to learn with a master photographer how to bring your wildflower photography up to the level of the pros.

Denver Artists to Mount Mixed Show at Gardens

The Denver Artists Guild will mount a show and sale at the Gardens Thursday, July 26, through Sunday, July 29. Flat works in several media will be included in the juried exhibition.

The show will open at 9 a.m. each day and run until 4:45 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and until 8 p.m. during the weekend. For more information call Rosalee Carroll, 973-3772.

Glass Show Sparkles at DBG August 2-14

The Glass Arts Fellowship returns to the Gardens in August with its annual "Glass at the Gardens" exhibition. Devoted entirely to new, never before exhibited works, it will present the entire range of art and craft work in the glass medium.

This year the show has been expanded to include two weekends and will be open in the evenings during the Gardens' extended hours. For advance information on the show call Wayne Bradbury, 751-9753 or 691-0051.

"Como, Colorado" by Rita Derjue was shown in last year's watercolor show.

Seven Rare Plant Species Found in South Park Peat Bog

Last summer botanists in Colorado were excited by the news that seven rare plant species have been found growing in a peat bog in South Park. The discovery of these species again reminds us how diverse our Colorado flora is and how we must work together to preserve it.

Did you know that the only protection for plants in Colorado comes from the Endangered Species Act, through the official listing of plants as threatened or endangered? Only listed species are protected and only through a variety of conservation steps enforceable on federal lands. Unfortunately, this leaves most of our rare plant species, as identified by the Colorado Natural Areas Program, without any legal protection. Few are on federal lands.

The discovery of these species is an indication of how much more information is needed to understand and evaluate Colorado's wetlands. As Colorado botanists continue to work with other agencies, guidelines can be established for the regulation of these natural resource management issues. As an example, the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board is now considering regulations that would classify peat as a mineral, requiring peat mine operators to post cash bonds before any excavation takes place at a site. This would provide the necessary funds for reclamation of the site if the operation fails.

Frost Foundation Awards Grant For Conservation

The Frost Foundation has awarded Denver Botanic Gardens a \$20,000 grant to expand its cooperative effort with the Center for Plant Conservation. The funds will be used by project coordinator Carol Dawson for research and seed collecting of rare and endangered plants.

The Gardens was designated by the center in 1984 as the conservator of endangered plants for the Rocky Mountain Region, an area that extends from northern New Mexico to the Canadian border.

Interested in Grasses? Share with Others.

A member of the Gardens who is enthusiastic about ornamental grasses, including those used for turf, would like to form a group dedicated to their culture. If you would like to share ideas, seeds or divisions, contact Chet Grabowski, 741-3200, daytimes, Monday through Friday.

Relaxed summer concertgoers await performers — and a Colorado sunset — in the amphitheater.



Summer Magic, Newest Daylilies, In Show & Sale

Regional members of the American Hemerocallis Society will present a bit of "Summer Magic" at the Gardens Saturday, July 21, with an exhibition and sale of daylilies.

To know the modern daylily is to be astonished at the strides that hybridizers have made in recent years. Diploid plants have been refined, and chemically created tetraploids show extremely heavy substance and large flowers. The demand for these new improvements has raised the prices for good introductions to between \$50 and \$200 per plant. A visit to this exhibit will show you what all the excitement is about. The sale, however, will emphasize moderately priced, proven performers for Denver gardeners.

The flowers will be shown as individual blossoms, on full stems and in artistic arrangements; entry is not limited to AHS members. The American Hemerocallis Society Achievement Award will be offered to the best seedling by local hybridizers. The sale, part of which will benefit the Gardens, will accompany the exhibit in John C. Mitchell II Hall. You should come early for the best selection. Hours are 12 to 4:30 p.m.

For information or a show schedule for entering the competition, call chairman Fran Wittgartner, 688-6723.

DBG Designated Regional Orchid Judging Center

Good news for orchid lovers: the Denver Botanic Gardens Board of Trustees of the Denver Orchid Society have reached an agreement that will provide facilities at the Gardens for a regional judging center of the American Orchid Society. This means that orchid growers of the Rocky Mountain region need no longer send their plants to Oklahoma City, Shreveport or California (the previous closest judging centers) to have their plants appraised for horticultural or botanical merit.

In return for the space and security necessary for the monthly judging sessions, the agreement calls for orchid society members to assist with the maintenance of the Gardens' orchid collection and with identification of unlabeled wild-collected species. They will also offer, through the Gardens' education department, classes in orchid culture and judging standards.

Concurrently with this agreement the orchid society also confirmed that it will hold its 1990 orchid show at the Gardens the second weekend in November. The first orchid show at the Gardens since 1986, it's titled, appropriately, "Return to the Garden!"

Nine Homes on ASLA Tour of Professional Landscapes

Sunday, July 15, the Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects will host a garden tour of nine professionally designed landscapes. The self-guided tour will feature unique and award-winning private gardens in the Hilltop, 7th Avenue and Belcaro neighborhoods of Denver.

Gardens range from intimate courtyards to expansive lawns with ponds. The designs reflect ways to restore old gardens, work with difficult spaces and enhance the beauty of each home. At each site will be information on its design and guidelines for working with landscape architects.

Represented will be the design work of Lifescape Associates, David Graham of Phase One Landscapes, Jane Silverstein Ries, Jake Frankhouser and Associates, Gail Barry of Land Mark Design, Chris Moritz, Mike Stahl and John Ludwig of Birdsall & Co.

The \$10 tickets may be purchased in advance at King Soopers or from the ASLA office at 830-0094. The day of the tour they will be available at Cranmer Park and at each garden.



1989 Annual Report to Members

Denver Botanic Gardens was established in 1951 to advance the knowledge and enjoyment of plants and their culture in the Rocky Mountain Region.

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc., a non-profit corporation, is chartered by the State of Colorado to operate the Gardens as an agency of the City and County of Denver. Chatfield Arboretum of Denver Botanic Gardens was included in this partnership in an agreement between the City and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1975.

Accredited in 1984 by the American Association of Museums, the Gardens today is internationally respected. It offers year-round displays of native and exotic plants, instruction in horticulture and related fields, scientific study of the botany of the Rocky Mountains and adjoining areas, cultural activities and a place of serenity and beauty for plant enthusiasts from throughout the world.



REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT

1989 was a year of progress and change that will provide a solid base for Denver Botanic Gardens' entry into the 1990s.

Our major fundraisers of the year were extremely successful. The Plant and Used Book Sale, under the able leadership of volunteer Rob Proctor, raised over \$75,000 for our general operating fund. The Fête des Fleurs, organized splendidly by trustee Lin Hulbert, raised over \$60,000 to purchase planting materials for the 1990 season.

Executive Director Merle Moore resigned during the year, and Assistant Director Andrew Pierce has been doing an extraordinary job as our acting director. At year's end the process for designating a new executive officer is being established. Obviously the Gardens will search for a person of impeccable qualities and leadership skills and who has the ability to take us into the 1990s and to plan for the next century.

This year the Board of Trustees started a process for facility planning. We are desperately in need of office space, a cafeteria, educational display areas, more meeting rooms, an auditorium and parking. This facility planning will be coordinated with the evaluation of present facilities and in consideration of funding.

The Board of Trustees and the Parks Department worked together during the latter half of the year to evaluate and strengthen the Gardens' role as an effective leader in the city of Denver and the Region. We consider it to be our responsibility to provide regional leadership in botanical, horticultural and environmental issues.

The support provided by the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District is of extreme importance. It is enabling us to improve the outside gardens, to remodel John C. Mitchell II Hall, to support programs at Chatfield Arboretum, to consider hiring a coordinator for our volunteers and a director for horticultural therapy programs.

It was because of you — our members, our staff, our volunteers and our public — that these Gardens were established over 30 years ago. It is because of your vision and dedication that we have our facility on York Street, other natural research properties and Chatfield Arboretum (which will formally open to the public on Earth Day, April 22, 1990). These many sites make up one nationally recognized institution.

Chatfield Arboretum deserves particular mention because it already represents the dreams-come-true of many. It came into being because of the efforts of thousands of volunteers and staff members. Now it has indeed "come of age." The arboretum is going to be one of the most exciting facets of the Gardens.

In the next decade we will see important and exciting developments. Again I want to thank all of you for making possible and successful this wonderful Botanic Gardens.

Beatrice B. Taplin

Beatrice B. Taplin
President, Board of Trustees
December 31, 1989



D E N V E R B O T A

1 9 9 0 c a l e n d

july

- 6 ListenUp Garden Concert:
The Persuasions
- 10 Young Audiences Concert:
The Sorcerer's Apprentice
- 11 Escape to the Gardens
- 14 American Iris Society: Iris
Rhizome Sale
- 19, 20 ListenUp Garden Concert:
GerryMulligan,Gerry
Mulligan Quartet and the
National Repertory Orchestra
- 18, 21, 22 National Wildflower
Research Center/Eastman
Kodak Company: Wildflower
Photography Workshop
- 21 American Hemerocallis
Society: Daylily Show
- 24 Young Audiences Concert:
The Clown Prince
- 26-29 Denver Artists Guild Show
- 31 DBG/DAM Celebration: An
Island Garden Revisited

august

- 2 ListenUp Garden Concert:
Yomo Toro
- 3 ListenUp Garden Concert:
Music from the Santa Fe
Music Festival
- 2-12 Glass Artists Fellowship:
"Glass at the Gardens"
- 8 Escape to the Gardens
- 16, 17 ListenUp Garden Concert:
Cleo Parker Robinson Dance
Ensemble
- 19 Denver Rose Society:
Miniature Rose Show
- 23 Perennials Symposium
- 30, 31 ListenUp Garden Concert:
Modern Jazz Quartet

september

- 2 Men's Garden Club of
Denver: Plant and Produce
Sale
- 8, 9 Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers:
Gesneriad Show and Sale
- 13 Free Day (York Street
Gardens)
- 25-30 Denver Allied Artists Guild
Exhibit and Sale

DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

Calendar of events

october

- 13 Rocky Mountain African Violet Council: Fall African Violet Sale
- 13 Free Day (York Street Gardens and Chatfield Arboretum)
- 13 Pumpkin Festival (Chatfield Arboretum)
- 27, 28 Carved Pumpkin Contest

november

- 2-4 "Botanical Treasures V" Antique Botanical Illustrations Show & Sale
- 7 Carl Tempel Wildflower Lecture
- 10, 11 Denver Orchid Society: Orchid Show
- 16, 17 Denver Botanic Gardens Gift Shop Holiday Sale
- 16 Free Day (York Street Gardens)

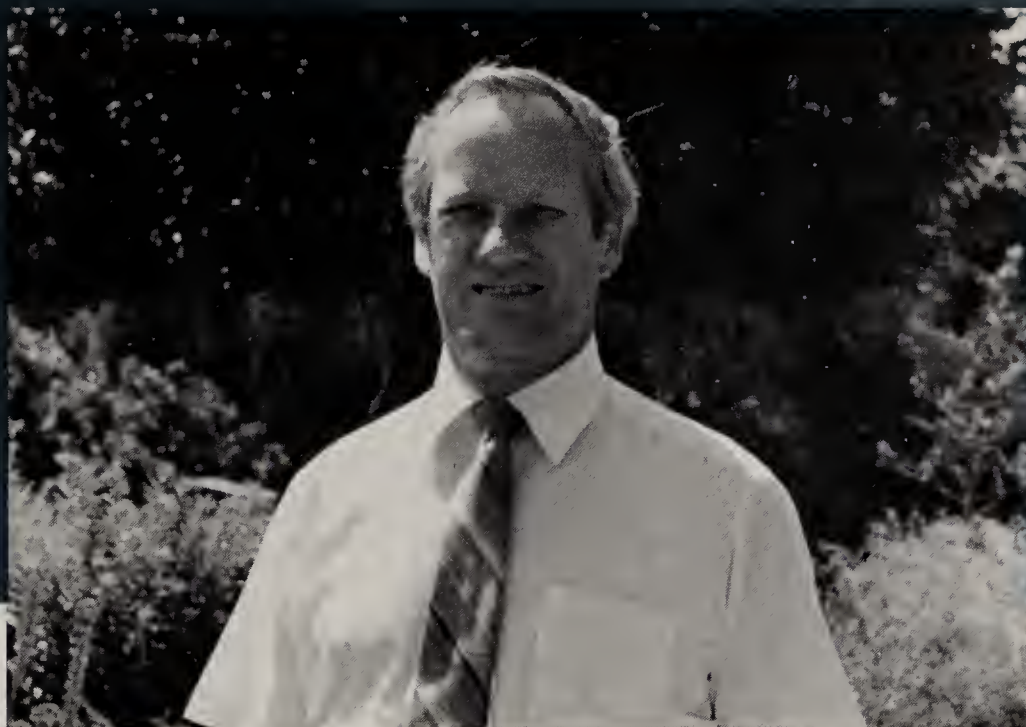
december

- 8-30 Blossoms of Light (Holiday decorations and activities. December 17-30, open evenings until 8 o'clock.)
- 8, 15 Teddy Bear Teas
- 9, 16 High Teas
- 11, 13 Holiday Concerts
- 13 Free Day (York Street Gardens)
- 18, 20 Holiday Concerts
- 25 Closed Christmas Day



Hours: 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Open Mondays, Wednesdays,
Saturdays and Sundays
until 8 p.m. through Labor Day.





REPORT BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR

The Gardens is a growing place — in many different ways — and as I look back on 1989 I'd like to share some significant signs of this.

Of course we take the most delight in the growth of the plants themselves, and it is a real pleasure to recognize the maturation that is taking place in many of our plantings here on York Street. The Xeriscape Demonstration Garden and the Laura Smith Porter Plains Garden have grown to assume their natural identities and are now among the most interesting and instructive of our gardens. Representing two of the drier plant habitats of the West, they will become increasingly important in the years to come, as the term "regional horticulture" gains strength in the local landscaping scene.

To touch on the accomplishments of only a few programs you will read about farther on in this report, I'd like to mention the educational programs at the Gardens and point out the dramatic increase in class and tour participation (up 73 percent and 11 percent, respectively, over 1988) and the new summer children's program, which was a great success in its first year. Throughout the York Street grounds the installation of interpretive signs continued, greatly helping to inform and orient our visitors. And in July we were host to a Rocky Mountain regional meeting of the Garden Writers Association of America; this introduced over 100 American and Canadian writers to Denver Botanic Gardens and to Colorado.

The first distribution of funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District was especially nurturing to the growth of most of our programs. After several years in the financial doldrums, due to annual shrinkage in the City side of our budget, we were able to begin restoring services and filling staff vacancies.

During the year there were several staff changes, the most significant of those was the mid-September resignation of Merle M. Moore, who had been Executive Director since October 1980. Several other critical staff vacancies remained at the end of the year. Old positions to be refilled are those of plant propagator and horticultural therapist. New titles recently created but yet to be occupied are naturalist and volunteer coordinator. Hopefully, to keep our growth unchecked, hiring for all of these positions can take place early in the coming year.

This has been just a brief glance at 1989, but as you read this annual report you will discover that the year was, indeed, one of progress for the Gardens. The dedication of the staff and volunteers and the leadership from the trustees in the past year have kept the Gardens growing and have made the past year one we can certainly be proud of.

Andrew Pierce, Assistant Director
(Acting Director)
December 31, 1989

TREASURER'S REPORT, REVISED AND FINAL

Denver Botanic Gardens completed another sound year in 1989, as an operating surplus was achieved and total assets grew to over \$7 million.

Final year-end financial statements reported total assets of \$7,142,112, up 31 percent over year-end 1988. Liabilities, as in the past, were insignificant at \$21,358. The strong asset growth was fueled by a substantial increase in the general operating fund, primarily from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District contribution. The endowment fund also increased some 14 percent as the Boettcher Foundation matching endowment campaign concluded in 1989. Overall, given a sluggish economy, the growth was impressive.

Preliminary operating reports indicate an income for 1989 at \$3,763,915 against expenses of \$2,071,824, leaving a surplus of \$1,692,091. 1989 income was up 41 percent over 1988 and was primarily comprised of new SCFD funds.

Other significant income came from investment income, development efforts, membership growth and renewals and the Annual Plant and Used Book Sale. Although expenses were up some 35 percent due to budget expansion, they were held in line and below budget.

With its strong asset base, Denver Botanic Gardens is well positioned to meet the challenges of the 1990s. Fiscally, the key goal for 1990 is to prudently utilize the SCFD funds to provide a pre-eminent botanical showcase and public facility. The ongoing goal is to continue building the endowment fund to ensure future income.



Donald Dodge
Treasurer, Board of Trustees
Denver Botanic Gardens

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 1989

		1989	1988
Assets	Current Assets		
	Cash	\$ 291,706	\$ 184,688
	Cash Equivalents	1,931,447	1,338,925
	Receivables	828,862	321,558
	Inventory	100,789	78,184
	Total Current Assets	\$ 3,152,804	\$ 1,923,355
	Other Assets		
	Investments	\$ 3,267,603	\$ 2,847,341
	Real Estate & Water Rights	677,727	677,727
	Other	43,978	18,524
	Total Other Assets	\$ 3,989,308	\$ 3,543,592
	Total Assets	\$ 7,142,112	\$ 5,466,947
Liabilities and Fund Balances	Liabilities		
	Accounts Payable	\$ 19,583	\$ 36,559
	Security Deposits	1,775	1,725
	Total Liabilities	\$ 21,358	\$ 38,284
	Fund Balances	\$ 7,120,754	\$ 5,428,663
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$ 7,142,112	\$ 5,466,947

Note: This is the final audited balance sheet for fiscal year January 1 - December 31, 1989. Revised May 10, 1990.

The Home Landscaper: 55 Professional Landscapes You Can Do

By Ann Reilly and Susan A. Roth.
Home Planners, Inc., Tucson.
\$10.95. SB 473.R46 1990

Dorothy Parker, critic with a wit of pH 1, remarked of a play she saw, "There is less in this than meets the eye." The same may be said of this book, which is in reality a sales catalog.

Most of its value lies in the first 37 pages, where the reader is given a brief introduction to the tenets and vocabulary of commercial landscape architects. The cautions and questions provide practical considerations if you are interviewing or employing a professional landscaper. The remainder of the book consists of drawings and designs intended to be complementary to the architectural styles of the houses shown.

The designs are quite by rote — not bad, but lacking the imagination and style that turn a garden into a personally satisfying space. One of the better features of this planning section is the plant graph guide which identifies the symbols that represent various trees, shrubs, ground covers and perennials.

Because the geographical scope of the book is so broad, planting advice is too general to be helpful. The same holds true for the designs. The key reads the same for a Northeastern garden as for one on the West Coast: deciduous shade tree, needle-leaf evergreen, flowering perennial. There are no specific suggestions.

Then, too, some of the descriptive writing nearly elevates this catalog to a work of fiction. Local gardeners, injured against romantic horticultural notions, will not be taken in by such hyperbole as describes the "Medieval Garrison" and its garden on page 84.

Virginia Stratton
DBG Volunteer



Nature Illustrated: Flowers, Plants and Trees 1550-1900 from the Collections of the N.Y. Public Library

Harry N. Abrams, Inc., New York.
(Price not available)
QK 98.3. N48 1989

The recent explosion of interest in botanical art is at last bringing exposure to a number of previously obscure collections, most notably that of The New York Public Library. Not generally known for its collections of botanical art, the library possesses copies of most of the great botanical books printed between 1550 and 1900. This collection was not the result of a single donor, but of a number of people, among them Jacob Astor and James Lenox.

Nature Illustrated gives us a delightful sampling of the best of these volumes. The renderings are grouped into four categories: Useful Plants, Edible Plants, Ornamental Flowers and Ferns, and Trees and Shrubs. The "useful plants" are the pharmaceuticals such as hemp, tobacco and aloe, and the utilitarian plants such as cotton and papyrus. Outstanding is Elizabeth Blackwell's hand-colored engraving of *Aloe vulgaris* from *A Curious Herbal*, which she produced to free her husband from debtors' prison.

My favorites among the edible plants are Maria Sibylla Merian's "Bananas" and "Peppers" from her huge treatise *The Dissertation on the Metamorphosis of the Insects of Surinam* written in 1726 in the Dutch colony of Surinam. Not only does she show the plants in captivating fashion, but they are literally alive with South American moths, butterflies and larvae. Also especially vivid is George Brookshaw's "Cantaloupe" on page 38. Note the geometric quality of the cross section of the fruit. I also am

enamored of the "Three Ears of Corn," again with the very geometric patterns on some of the kernels.

No book on botanical art would be complete without the work of Pierre-Joseph Redout'e. Included here for our pleasure are several of "les roses", plus what has to be one of my inspirations, "Lilium Superbum" from his monumental *Les Liliacée's*. The New York Public Library possesses a rare copy of this work showing the plates both in the colored and uncolored states, the latter being printed on tan paper. Also deliciously reminiscent of Maria Sibylla Merian's work is Mrs. Edward Bury's *Crinum pedunculatum* on page 80, with two fantastically colored tropical butterflies. Bringing back recollections of my recent trip to Missouri Botanical Garden is the impeccable "Camellias" of Clara Maria Pope. Rounding out the chapter are several very nice prints of ferns and color plates of orchids.

Among the trees I must mention Ferdinand Bauer's "Pinus Nigra." Even though the bulk of Bauer's works was published in the early 1800s, his dissections are crisp, precise, yet aesthetically beautiful, even by today's standards.

This book is highly recommended for any collector or student of botanical art.

Carolyn Crawford
Botanical Illustrator

Used Book Sale Volunteers' Work Pays Off

The used book sale portion of DBG's annual Plant and Used Book Sale this May earned its highest amount in four years: an astounding \$14,360, before taxes. The sale supports the book budget of the Gardens' Helen Fowler Library.

Special thanks go to John and Linda Verbiscar, chairmen of the sale, who took the reins this year. They were supported throughout the year by former organizers Stephanie Benton and Susan Coombe, and by a hard-working volunteer corps: Ann and Bob Heapes, Linda Parsons, Mary Beth Cole and Carole Quimby. This past year the group began in September to sort and price the books, then convened weekly to get the collection ready for sale by the May date.

Thanks, also, to the book sale volunteers who worked on the days of the sale. All this work and dedication paid off handsomely for the library.

Solange Gignac, Librarian,
Helen Fowler Library

LIBRARY NOTES

Helen Fowler Library
Volume 13, No. 2
July 1990
Librarian:
Solange Gignac

The Land and The Garden

By V. Sackville-West. Webb and Bower, Exeter, Devon, 1989 in association with Michael Joseph, London. \$24.95.
PR 6037.A35 L3 1989

This is a difficult book to review, not because of its complexity, but because of its simplicity. There is nothing that I can say about it that the author does not say better herself. So let me begin by introducing her. Victoria Sackville-West was born in 1892, a descendant of Thomas Sackville, Earl of Dorset, an important dramatist and poet of the 16th century. She was a respected poet, novelist and critic who was associated with the Bloomsbury group, an admirer of Auden and who was kind to the young Stephen Spender. She made her home at Sissinghurst Castle with her husband Harold Nicolson. The gardens there remain a memorial to her.

She was not a prolific writer. The two poems in this edition took 26 years to complete. She went back to them many times, changing and correcting until she felt satisfied that every word was right, that she had conveyed to the reader exactly what she felt. It is that feeling that makes these poems extraordinary. Her passionate appreciation of the countryside combined with her brilliance as a wordsmith created a timeless literary gift, full of history—a record of language and customs now lost, or nearly so.

Let's begin with "The Land," a seasonal record of the farmer's year in Kent. I shall let her speak.

Winter:

*"Here is no colour, here but form
and structure,
The bones of trees, the magpie bark
of birches ...
Fields of snow and tranquil trees
in snow
Through veils of twilight, northern,
still, and sad ..."*

On a late Spring:

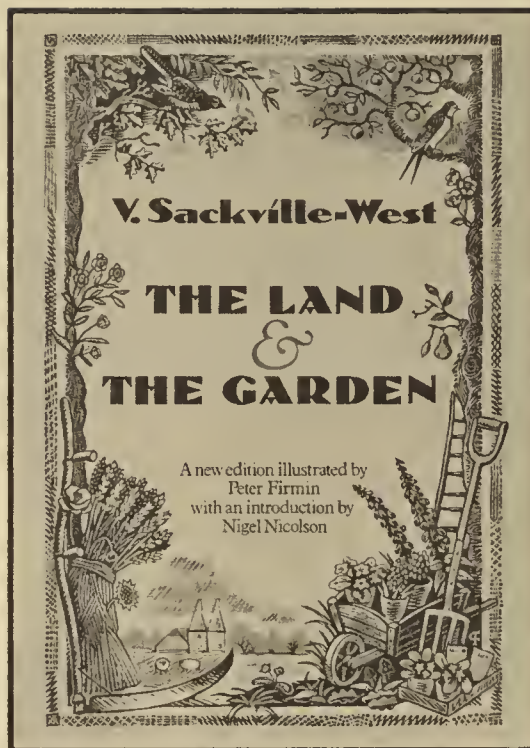
*"Then broke the spring. The hedges
in a day
Burgeoned to green ..."*

And to the Bee-Master:

*"Watch, if the days be warm,
The flitting of the swarm.
... but be at hand
And you may take your bees on
strangers' land."*

The Haysel and Harvest of Summer:

*"The summer's horn indeed is full
with crops;
An earlier toil its due reward has
earned.
Now shall you reap and gather,
store and stack
Your hay, your corn, your barley
and your hops ..."*



Autumn and Apples:

*Spilt from the horn of plenty to my
page,
Spicing my line with tart or resin-
ous smell.
Apples and hops made Kent's clean
Autumn wine ..."*

"The Garden" was written during World War II. It is more philosophical and introspective, as she considers the futility of the violence man brings on himself. It contains some of her most famous lines, written after a bomb had fallen near her home killing a small bird.

*"So disproportionate, so violent,
So great a force a little thing to slay.
—Those craters in the simple fields
of Kent!"*

*It took a ton of iron to kill this
lark,
This weightless freeman of the day.
All in its fate was irony. It lay
Tiny among monstrosities of clay,
Small solitary victim of the dark."*

In this work, she writes with gentle wit to the gardener "poet that you be ... now use your seeds like words ...," and in the same vein composes a song to the wasp. She comes to grips with approaching age; "Oh bolting Time, rough pony of my days ..."

A joyful celebration is this book, enhanced by the vinyl cut illustrations by Peter Firmin in which Sissinghurst and the countryside of Kent are recognizable. Care in choosing the type and paper also add to the reader's enjoyment.

Virginia Stratton
DBG member and volunteer

In the Victorian Tradition: Pressing and Mounting Plants

Saturday, July 7 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium
Teacher: Dr. Helen M. Zeiner

During the Victorian era, making a personal herbarium — a collection of pressed plants — was a popular lady's hobby. View several of these beautiful old volumes and then learn how to press and mount plants correctly. For sentimental or scientific purposes, the techniques are the same.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

A Garden Legacy: Art and Flowers

Tuesday, July 17, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Teachers: Angela Overy and Rob Proctor
Denver Art Museum and DBG

For inspiration, tour the Hassam exhibit at DAM, and then go to the Gardens to see the re-created Island Garden of Celia Thaxter. Following a gourmet box lunch, spend the afternoon drawing flowers in the Victorian tradition. Bring a pencil, eraser, and colored pencils, if you have them. Meet in the DAM lobby.

Fee: \$27 members/\$30 non-members

Enduring Classics: Antique Flowers

Tuesdays, August 21 and 28
7 to 9 p.m. at John C. Mitchell II Hall,
Denver Botanic Gardens
Teacher: Rob Proctor

Discover the flowers that grew in the elegant gardens of kings, humble cottage-dwellers or perhaps your own grandmother. Learn about perennials, annuals, herbs, bulbs and vines appropriate for period gardens. You'll find that antique flowers are easy-to-grow, charming additions to the contemporary landscape.

Fee: \$16 members/\$17.50 non-members

Teachers

Angela Overy received her National Diploma of Design from London University, England. She has lectured and taught extensively.

Rob Proctor is an artist and writer whose book, *Antique Flowers: Perennials*, the first in a series, will be published by Harper & Row in September.

Dr. Helen M. Zeiner is a botanist who serves as Honorary Curator of the Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium at DBG.

Ecology of Colorado

- Session 6:** Roxborough State Park
Saturday, July 7
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 7:** Red Rocks
Saturday, July 14
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 8:** Genesee Park
Saturday, July 21
9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Session 9:** Mount Evans
Saturday, July 28
9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Session 10:** Rocky Mountain National Park
Saturday, August 4
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Classes meet at Chatfield Arboretum Visitor Center.

After a short group discussion, you will car pool and drive to the destination. The field trips will usually involve short stops at points of ecological interest before we get to our final destination. Bring a sack lunch, hat,

Alpine Ecology

(two sessions: one lecture, one field trip)

Wednesday, July 18
7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classroom A and
Saturday, July 21 (Field Trip)
7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The treeless tundra dominating the landscape above timberline is actually a kaleidoscope of 20 or more separate plant communities in their unique ecological niche. The communities range from the windswept fell fields,

Trip to Corona Pass Tundra

Saturday, July 7
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Visit one of the most spectacular passes in the Front Range, where you will observe tundra ecology and wildflowers, as well as man's influence on this high mountain environment. Follow the abandoned railroad to the abandoned hotel at the top of the pass, and you will see ancient Indian game-drive fences on this high altitude field trip.

Bring lunch, rain gear and a sweater; bring plant guides and a hand lens if you have them.

Meet: promptly at 8 a.m. at the northeast parking lot of the Rock Cut (I-70 at Exit 259).

Instructor: Paul Kilburn, Ph.D., has taught botany and ecology in Colorado for many years.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 18

jacket, rain gear, good hiking shoes, camera and water to each session.

Denver Botanic Gardens members and guests may sign up for one or more sections of the series without college tuition. Please pay your Denver Botanic Gardens fees to DBG. You must be preregistered for the trips. Call the education department, 331-4000, Ext. 20, for additional information.

Ecology of Colorado is a college credit course offered by Arapahoe Community College. College credit is available through ACC by paying regular tuition for this three-credit course and attending all class sessions. Call instructor Jim Trammell at 797-5841 (office) or 795-5843 (home) for additional information on college credit registration.

Instructor: Jim Trammell teaches at Arapahoe Community College and is a naturalist at Chatfield Arboretum.

Fee: \$10 members/\$11 non-members per class session. Additional transportation costs and entrance fees are shared with the driver.

Limit: 10 per class session

harboring cushion plants like moss campion and nailwort; to the black sedge-marsh marigold wetlands.

This course introduces the student to the ecology of this unique but abundant Colorado Rocky Mountain habitat with a single lecture followed by an all day field trip to Hoosier Pass above Breckenridge.

Instructor: Paul Kilburn, Ph.D., has taught tundra ecology in Colorado for many years.

Fee: \$15 members/\$16.50 non-members

Field Trip to Rocky Mountain National Park

(one session)

Saturday, July 14
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Explore the rich woods surrounding two of the prettiest, most accessible lakes in the park. The leader is especially fond of the wild orchids and, with lunch, the group should find several of these, including the elusive little purple lady's slipper, *Cypripedium fasciculatum*. Don't forget your lunch.

Leader: Dick Schwendinger

Meet: promptly at 10 a.m. at the Moraine Park Visitor Center. Please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20, if you need directions. Each car entering the park must purchase a daily user pass in addition to the field trip fee.

Fee: \$5.00 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 15



Field Trip to Mount Goliath

Saturday, July 21
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tundra flowers hold a special fascination for both amateur and professional botanists. Mount Goliath is an exceptional place to observe them. Carpets of dainty wildflowers are complemented by grand mountain vistas and the sculptured, grizzled beauty of the bristlecone pines.

Join two experienced field trip leaders and walk the M. Walter Pesman Trail, a winding 1.5-mile downhill path at 12,100 feet. Please bring your lunch, drinking water and jacket and wear comfortable walking shoes.

Leaders: Bob Heapes is an enthusiastic field trip leader. Loraine Yeatts volunteers in the herbarium and is also a popular field trip leader.

Meet: between 7:45 and 8 a.m. in the main DBG parking lot.

Fee: \$17.50 members/\$20 non-members (includes Janet L. Wingate's illustrated brochure, *Wildflowers of Mount Goliath*, as well as bus transportation.)

Limit: 45

Guanella Pass Ecology

(two sessions)

Monday, July 23, 6 to 8:30 p.m.
Morrison Center at DBG and
Saturday, July 28, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Field Trip

The botany of Guanella Pass near Georgetown will be emphasized in this course, but participants will also learn about the animals that inhabit the region.

In the slide lecture, plant and animal adaptations at this high elevation will be discussed. Snow-lover, Parry primrose, alpine avens and chiming bells are just a few of the tundra flowers to be seen on the field trip. Bring a lunch, drinking water and dress for changeable weather.

Instructors: Tina Jones studied alpine ecosystems at the University of Colorado Mountain Research station. Karen Trout works as a dryland plant gardener for Denver Botanic Gardens.

Fee: \$15 members/\$16.50 non-members

Limit: 18

CTA SITES

Summer
1990
Denver Botanic Gardens



Tallgrass Prairie Field Trip

Saturday, August 18
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Observe a good example of tall-grass prairie along Highway 93 between Golden and Boulder above Ralston Reservoir. The dominant grasses include big bluestem, Indian grass and little bluestem, but many others such as switchgrass, needle-and-thread and side oats gramma will be seen at their flowering peak.

Please bring a plant identification book and hand lens if you have them and don't forget your lunch.

Meet: promptly at 10 a.m., 3.3 miles north of Highway 58 (Golden) on Highway 93, at the dairy just north of 58th Avenue on the east side of the highway.

Instructor: Paul Kilburn, Ph.D., has taught prairie botany and ecology for many years.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 20

Prairie Discovery Tour

Saturday, August 18
10 a.m. to noon
Plains Conservation Center

Explore the Plains Conservation Center, dedicated to preserving a part of Colorado's heritage — the prairie. You will ride out onto the prairie in a wagon, then take a walk led by the center's knowledgeable volunteers. Register in advance through the education department at the Gardens.

Meet: at the interpretive center, 21901 E. Hampden Ave., Aurora

Leaders: Volunteers of the Plains Conservation Center.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 20

Perennial Walk

Section II: Thursday, July 12
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and
5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

These evening strolls through the perennial plantings at Denver Botanic Gardens will provide an opportunity to closely observe these marvelously versatile plants. An experienced perennial grower, Mr. Pierce will offer insight on growth and culture that you can incorporate into your own gardening.

Instructor: Andrew Pierce

Meet: promptly at 5:30 p.m. outside the education building lobby

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 20

Xeriscape and Plains Gardens Walk

(one session)

Section I: Wednesday, July 18
Section II: Saturday, July 21

9:30 to 11 a.m.
Xeriscape Garden

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Both of these gardens suggest alternatives to traditional styles of gardening for the arid west. The Xeriscape Demonstration Garden includes rare and endangered species of xeric plants. The plains garden is an area of native grasses and other prairie plants; it recreates seven plant systems of the Colorado high plains.

Meet: at the picnic tables at the north end of the xeriscape garden.

Instructor: Karen Trout is the DBG gardener who maintains these two gardens and is an active member of the Colorado Native Plant Society.

Fee: \$6 members/\$8 non-members

Limit: 20

Ancient Crops Garden Tour

(one session)

Section I: Wednesday, August 8
Section II: Saturday, August 11
10-11 a.m.

This new garden is planted in a symbolic four-pointed star pattern commonly used by many on the ancient Indian cultures of the Americas. Filling the pattern are food crops of these same Indians: corn, beans, squash, tomatillos, melons, amaranths, chilies and other indigenous crops adopted by the cultures. These plants have been passed down and improved upon through the generations and they are still the primary crops of meso-American Indians.

Meet: at gazebo of Herb Garden

Instructor: Karen Trout, gardener at DBG who is actively interested in native plants and southwestern anthropology.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 20



Japanese Tea Ceremony

Section VIII: Sunday, July 8
Section IX: Saturday, July 21
Section X: Saturday, August 4
Section XI: Sunday, August 19

(one session)

2 to 3 p.m.
Tea House in DBG's Japanese Garden

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Because of its emphasis on such concepts as harmony, respect, purity, tranquility and elegant simplicity, the tea ceremony has for centuries been considered the epitome of Japanese life. This is an opportunity to experience an authentic tea ceremony in the quiet splendor of our Japanese Garden.

Instructor: Kathryn Kawakami has done much to inform Denver-area residents and students about the culture of Japan.

Fee: \$4.50 members/\$5 non-members

Limit: 15

Aquatic Plant Walk

(one session)

Section I: Tuesday, August 28
Section II: Saturday, September 1
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Denver is well-suited to water gardening, thanks to the abundant sunshine. This is the time of year in which the hardy and tropical water lilies and many other aquatic plants are in full bloom. This stroll will introduce you to the variety that makes the display so dazzling.

Meet: at the gazebo at Water Display Garden.

Instructor: Joseph V. Tomocik has been the gardener at DBG responsible for maintaining DBG water gardens since 1982. He has lectured at DBG, Longwood Gardens and Missouri Botanical Gardens.

Fee: \$6 members/\$8 non-members

Limit: 20

The Japanese garden is a tranquil setting for weekend tea ceremonies.

Night-Blooming Nymphaeas

Sunday, September 2
7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Come see the mysterious and colorful night-blooming tropical water lilies. This year three giant Victorias will be displayed. With a little luck they will open on cue at sunset and fill the air with their sweet fragrance.

Cultural information will be provided in the cool of the evening; time will be allowed for questions and photography.

Meet: at the gazebo at Water Display Garden.

Fee: \$6 members/\$7 non-members

Limit: 20

Identifying Wildflowers for Beginners

Saturday, July 7 **1 to 4 p.m.**
Herbarium

Learn how to key out your favorite wildflowers and how to identify some you like but do not know the names of. This introductory class will be an asset to your summer hikes. Bring to class any wildflower guides you might have for this region and a hand lens (if you have one).

Instructor: Dr. Helen Zeiner taught botany at the University of Denver and is the volunteer curator of the Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium at the Gardens.

Fee: \$12 members/\$14 non-members

Limit: 16

Beginning Bonsai

(four sessions)

Wednesdays, July 11, 18, 25 and August 1
7:30 to 9:30 p.m. **Classroom B**

This popular introductory course will cover the history and cultural techniques of bonsai, the art of creating dwarf trees and shrubs. Instruction on styling, training, potting and care of bonsai will be included.

Each student will take a completed bonsai home and all materials will be provided.

Instructor: Keith Jeppson, past president of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society, is an experienced bonsai hobbyist of 17 years. Harold Sasaki is a commercial bonsai grower with 18 years of experience. Both are lively, capable and popular teachers.

Fee: \$54 members/\$59 non-members (includes \$22 for materials)

Limit: 16

Grow Your Own Mushrooms

(one session)

Saturday, July 14
12:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Morrison Center (2320 East 11th Ave.)

Mushrooms are like flowers or fruits as they also provide a means of propagating the next generation. One “plant” will produce a few or many mushrooms, depending on conditions. Cultivating mushrooms at home is similar to growing green plants. The right conditions must be provided with appropriate culture requirements.

You will take home plates inoculated from stock cultures and fresh mushrooms. Written directions will be distributed, so you will be prepared to begin your adventure of growing mushrooms at home.

Instructor: Steven Smith is an active member of the Colorado Mycological Society, of which he has been vice-president for the past two years, and has taught several mushroom-growing classes through the society.

Fee: \$21 members/\$24 non-members (includes \$5 for materials)

Limit: 12

Xeric Plants at Denver Botanic Gardens — A Seminar for Colorado Nurserymen

(one session)

Thursday, August 16
8 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Classroom C**

As a nursery person you are on the front line in educating the public — your customers — about drought-tolerant plants and water conservation in the landscape. This is an opportunity to increase your knowledge of xeric plants, using the collections at Denver Botanic Gardens.

You will observe selected plants and discuss their origin, growth characteristics, maintenance needs, landscape uses, availability and care in the nursery. Propagation, field and pot culture have been added to this year’s program. There will be a one-hour break for lunch.

Please note: This is a course for professionals in the nursery industry, such as owners, sales people and growers.

Instructors: Pat Hayward of the Colorado Nurserymen’s Association and Janet Caniglia of Xeriscape Colorado will coordinate this seminar.

Fee: \$24 members of DBG/\$27 non-members

Let it Be, Let it Rot

(one session)

Saturday, August 11
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Morrison Center
(2320 East 11th Avenue)

It doesn’t smell, it’s rich with organic material and it will help your garden grow. Begin to prepare your compost now and have a supply of organic material for your garden.

Instructor: Judy Elliott is an enthusiastic teacher with 15 years’ organic gardening experience. She is a master gardener who serves as a conservatory guide, a preschool guide and “Dr. Green” at DBG. She has also taught several classes on organic gardening for the Gardens.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members



The education department’s summer field trips often serve up unexpected thrills.

Low Water Plants for Beautiful Gardens

(six sessions)

Wednesdays, July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
7:30 to 9:30 p.m. **Classroom C**

Xeriscape is far more than yuccas and gravel! A water-conserving landscape can have seasonal color and plentiful flowers and still be easily maintained.

Slides will give you an in-depth look at approximately 150 trees, shrubs, vines and ground covers that are available in the Denver area. A discussion of their form, foliage, flower, fruit and function will enable you to select choice plants for your garden. Attractive groupings and combinations will also be addressed.

Instructor: Alan Rollinger is a professional landscape designer specializing in residential planning. A graduate of CSU, he has completed over 800 landscape projects in Colorado. He designed the garden that received the 1985 Xeriscape Award.

Fee: \$48 members/\$53 non-members

Wildflower Photography Workshop

(two sessions)

Students must attend the lecture on Wednesday, July 18 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. and may choose either
Section I: Saturday, July 21
Section II: Sunday, July 22
 6:30 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 9 p.m.

Please indicate your section on the registration form

Learn the fine art of wildflower photography in this hands-on workshop. Participants will attend the Wednesday evening lecture and will then photograph flowers at Denver Botanic Gardens bright and early when the light is best on either Saturday or Sunday morning.

After their slide film is developed, students will reconvene for critiques in the evening. The instructor promises that this immediate feedback is a very effective learning tool that is also exciting and fun.

The following materials are required: one 35mm camera with a macro lens and a carrying bag, and one tripod, preferably one that can be lowered close to the ground. In addition, please bring these items, if you have them: normal, ringlight or standard flash unit with remote sensor; 18 percent reflectant gray card; lens extension tubes or bellows; kneepads; small atomizer for spraying "dew" on flowers; polarizing and 81-A filters for your favorite lens; and a shutter release cable.

Please note that students should already have a good working knowledge of their camera.

Workshops are co-sponsored by the National Wildflower Research Center and Eastman Kodak Company, Professional Photography Division.

Instructor: John D. Smithers

Fee: \$70 members/\$74 non-members (this includes two rolls of 36-exposure slide film and processing)

Limit: 15 per section

Wildflower Photography Lecture

(one session)

Wednesday, July 18
7 to 9:30 p.m.

John C. Mitchell II Hall

Sharpen your sense of composition and photographic techniques while learning the fine art of wildflower photography from a nationally recognized expert. This comprehensive and beautiful presentation is open to wildflower lovers as well as photographers and will cover the following topics: finding flowers, selective gardening, plant protection equipment, lighting, backdrops, uses of depths of field, filters, films, metering, composition and special effects.

Instructor: John D. Smithers is the owner of DeHart Media, an award-winning firm in Austin, Texas, and holds a master's degree in radio-television-film from the University of Texas.

Fee: \$12 members/\$14 non-members

Arranging Lessons with Fresh Flowers

(four sessions)

Mondays, July 16, 23, 30, August 6
9 a.m. to noon Classroom B

Summer is the perfect time to learn how to make floral arrangements to complement a favorite spot in your home. Students will learn how to select and cut fresh flowers for arrangements that will be prepared in class.

Please bring two containers (no glass or silver), clippers, scissors or knife, a large bucket with a handle for gathering flowers and two needlepoint flower holders (available in the DBG Gift Shop). All other materials, including flowers, will be provided.

Instructor: Avalonne Kosanke is a master flower judge for the National Council of State Garden Clubs and has over 25 years of teaching experience.

Fee: \$55 members/\$60 non-members (includes a \$7 materials fee).

Limit: 15

Summer Lesson in Ikebana

(one session)

Saturday, August 18
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Classroom B

This workshop is an introduction to Ikebana but can also serve as a refresher course for students who have completed the "Beginning Ikebana Lessons" class. Two arrangements will be completed in the workshop.

Please bring the following materials to class: two round or rectangular ceramic containers (no smaller than 12 inches long and two inches deep), two needlepoint flower holders (one that is two inches wide and one that is three inches wide or larger), sharp clippers, small bucket (or other container to hold flowers and water) and notebook.

Although flowers will be provided students should bring their own line material (branches).

Instructor: Joan Wooldridge is past president of Ikebana International and has teaching certificates in two schools.

Fee: \$14 members/\$16 non-members

Limit: 12

Dry It. You'll Like It.

(two sessions)

Tuesdays, July 24, 31
9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Classroom B

Dahlias, zinnias, roses and black-eyed Susans are among the flowers whose beauty you will learn to preserve in silica gel in this class. Students will select and dry garden and roadside flowers for use in winter arrangements.

Please bring two plastic shoe boxes with lids, a small plastic bucket with a handle, scissors, clippers, wire cutters and a small three-pound coffee can with lid. All other materials, including flowers, will be provided.

Instructor: Avalonne Kosanke

Fee: \$31 members/\$33 non-members (includes a \$15 materials fee)

Limit: 20

Watercolor Painting

(five sessions)

Section I: Mondays,
July 9, 16, 23, 30,
August 6
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Section II: Wednesdays,
July 11, 18, 25,
August 1, 8
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Section III: Wednesdays,
July 11, 18, 25,
August 1, 8
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Morrison Center at Denver Botanic Gardens, 2320 E. 11th Avenue

Explore the sparkle and delicacy of watercolor painting while enjoying the natural setting of Denver Botanic Gardens. This course will cover the basic materials and techniques of watercolors with emphasis on freedom of personal expression.

Come prepared with supplies. You'll need: a one-inch flat brush, #10 round brush, watercolor paper, tissues, container for water, plastic palette and cake or tube watercolors.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky currently teaches art history, watercolor painting and oil painting at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, and he displays his work at Inkfish Art Gallery. He is a graduate of the University of Kharkov and the Art College of Kharkov, U.S.S.R.

Fee: \$60 members/\$66 non-members

Limit: 15

Watercolor Workshop

(one session)

Wednesday, August 15
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Classroom B

Spend a day in the Gardens capturing, in watercolors, the glory of August's flowers. The course includes exercises in perception and instruction in the stages of developing a painting. You should have an elementary understanding of watercolor.

Bring watercolor supplies, drawing paper, charcoal, something to sit on and your lunch.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky
Fee: \$18 members/\$20 non-members
Limit: 15

Tuscan Vegetables:
Classic Northern Italian Recipes

(one session)

Saturday, August 25
10 a.m. to noon
Kitchen next to DBG's Library

Late summer is the perfect time to discover Florentine vegetable dishes that may serve as the basis for a unique, refreshing meal. Learn about delicious produce such as fennel, artichokes, peppers, leeks and other Tuscan vegetable classics that are readily found locally and simple to prepare.

Instructor: An accomplished chef, food consultant and teacher, Judith Fine-Sarchielli lived in Italy 15 years.
Fee: \$11 members/\$13.20 non-members (includes \$3 for materials).
Limit: 12

Carve-A-Summer
Centerpiece Workshop

Saturday, August 25
10 a.m. to noon
Morrison Center at DBG

Be among the first to learn how to design creative centerpieces from your late-summer vegetables and fruits. Carve an elegant or humorous centerpiece that can be lit with candles for evening parties. They can also serve as containers for flowers and will certainly be a conversation piece.

Begin with watermelon and soon you'll be carving giant zucchinis, eggplants and cantaloupes at home. Using a special carving kit you can become wildly creative, turning an ordinary vegetable into a masterpiece. Please bring one or two large watermelons to class.

Instructor: Tina Goldstein is a fiber artist who studied at the University of Northern Colorado. She is an enthusiastic teacher who has taught pumpkin carving classes at the Gardens.

Fee: \$14 members/\$16 non-members (Fee includes \$6 for one carving kit.)
Limit: 20



Cooking with Herbs
and Spices

(one session)

Saturday, September 15
9 to 11:30 a.m.
Kitchen next to DBG's Library

Learn to make late summer herbal treats from Tuscany. These recipes make delightful, romantic and personalized gifts. The instructor will create a sample gift basket of herbed and spiced oils and vinegars, cheeses and butters. Each student will make his or her own herbal cheese and receive recipes for future creations.

Instructor: Judith Fine-Sarchielli
Fee: \$13 members/\$15 non-members (includes \$3 for materials).
Limit: 12

Edible Flowers: Cooking
with Art and Romance

(one session)

Wednesday, August 29
10 a.m. to noon
Kitchen next to DBG's Library

Beautiful to see, lovely in aroma and even more delicious to consume, flowers are an exotic addition to your menu. Learn how roses, carnations, squash blossoms, nasturtiums and other flowers have a language all their own in the romance of cuisine. Flowers are easily prepared and offer a great effect for casual garnishes and elegant entertaining.

Instructor: Judith Fine-Sarchielli
Fee: \$11 members/\$13.20 non-members (includes \$3 for materials).
Limit: 12

Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206

Fees for courses should be paid in advance by charge, check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your payment is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

Enclosed is _____ to cover the registration fees for the following classes:

Name and section of class(es) _____

Name _____

Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Member ID _____
(on top line of newsletter address label)

Address _____

City _____ ZIP code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐

_____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

CALTE

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies

A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a *general* indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switchboard during business hours at 331-4000.

African Violet Society, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society**, 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society**, 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club**, 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society**, 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers**, 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society**, 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International**, 4th Fri.; **Iris Society**, spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club**, 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society**, 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society**, 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society**, 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club**, 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society**, 2nd Sun. of 5 months.

C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Watercolor Society Show	Watercolor Society Show	Watercolor Society Show	Watercolor Society Show		Garden Concert	Identifying Wildflowers, Corona Pass F.T., Press & Mount Plants
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Tea Ceremony	"Island Garden Revisited," Seeds & Shoots*, Watercolor Painting*	Young Audiences Concert	Watercolor Painting*, Beginning Bonsai*	Perennial Walk		F.T. to Rocky Mtn. Nat'l Park, Grow Mushrooms, Iris Rhizome Sale
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Watercolor Class	Under The Canopy*, "Island Garden Revisited," Fresh Flower Arranging*	Garden Legacy: Art & Flowers	Wildflower Photography Lecture, Alpine Ecology*, Xeriscape & Plains Gardens	Garden Concert	Garden Concert	Xeriscape & Plains Gardens, Tea Ceremony, Daylily Sale Show
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Wildflower Photography Workshop	"Island Garden Revisited," Guanella Pass*, Hotter & Hotter*, Small Fry Safari	Young Audiences Concert, Dry It-You'll Like It*	Low Water Plants for Beautiful Gardens*	Denver Artists Guild Show	Denver Artists Guild Show	Denver Artists Guild Show
	29	30	31				
	Denver Artists Guild Show, Watercolor Class	"Island Garden Revisited," A Better Flytrap*					*First meeting of a class with more than one session
	Coming Next Month		August 11 Let It Be. Let It Rot.	August 16 Xeric Plants Seminar for Colorado Nurserymen	August 18 Summer Lesson in Ikebana, Prairie Discovery Tour, Tallgrass Prairie F.T.	August 19 Miniature Rose Show & Workshop, Tea Ceremony August 21 Enduring Classics: Antique Flowers*	August 23 Perennials Symposium August 29 Edible Flowers August 30 & 31 Garden Concerts
	August 2 & 3 Garden Concerts	August 4 Watercolor Class, Tea Ceremony August 8 Escape to the Gardens	August 15 Watercolor Workshop August 16 & 17 Garden Concerts				
	Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.		909 York Street Denver, Colorado 80206 303-331-4000				Non Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 205 Denver, CO
	Address correction requested						
	TIME VALUE						
	July 1990						
							

Patricia Thorpe Leads Bonfils- Stanton Lecture Series

A colorful, insightful revelation of "America's Cottage Gardens" will lead off the 1990 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series Tuesday evening, September 11. The speaker is author and gardener Patricia Thorpe whose book *America's Cottage Gardens* was published by Random House this year.

Ms. Thorpe discerns across America wonderful regional variations on the casual, owner-designed and (usually) owner-tended style known as cottage garden. Only in the Atlantic Northeast do American examples of this gardening art form resemble their English models. Her slide talk will have traditionalists rethinking their answer to the question "What is a cottage garden?" As she warns, introduc-

continued on page 3

Green Thumb



NEWS

Denver Botanic Gardens August 1990 Number 90-8



CGGA, DBG Host Workshop on Perennials

The Colorado Greenhouse Growers Association and Denver Botanic Gardens will present a workshop on perennial plants at the Gardens Thursday, August 23, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The daylong symposium at the Gardens will begin with lectures by well-known Colorado gardening experts. Group discussions in the afternoon will cover commercial production and marketing, xeriscaping and perennials for shade. The day will end with a wine and cheese reception sponsored by several Front Range green businesses and a walk through DBG's newly renovated perennial border led by Andrew Pierce, DBG assistant director.

Keynote speakers of the workshop are John and Jeri Cretti discussing "Perennials in Colorado." John is an award-winning television and radio garden expert; both are professional garden writers. The other lectures are "Tethian Plants?" by Panayoti Kelaidis, "High Altitude Perennials" by Marty Jones, "Fall is for Planting Bulbs and Perennials" by Cornelius Noordermeer, and "Using Perennials Effectively — Color, Texture and Combinations" by Rob Proctor.

Registration is \$15 per person. It includes admission to the Gardens, lunch and all workshop activities. Send your name, address and registration fee to the Colorado Greenhouse Growers Association, 2785 North Speer Blvd., Suite 230, Denver, CO 80211. The workshop is meant for both professional and amateur growers and lovers of perennial plants. For information call 331-4000, Ext. 26.

Inside:

*"Glass at the
Gardens"*
page 3

*Men's Garden
Club Sale*
page 3

*Identification
of Fall
Wildflowers*
page 6

*Discover
Walter S. Reed
Garden*
page 6

*Rudbeckias are
beautiful
perennials for
Colorado
gardens.*

Cleo Parker
Robinson
dancers liven
the amphi-
theater August
16 and 17.



Dutch Exporters Agree to Bulb Origin Labeling

After several months of negotiation between the Dutch bulb industry and leading U.S. and British environmental organizations the Dutch exporters announced in June that they have agreed to begin labeling their produce as to origin. The pact is designed to preserve threatened or endangered species harvested from the wild and to aid consumers choose bulbs grown in cultivation.

The agreement — to be phased in by 1995 in three stages — calls for all bulbs exported from Holland to carry one of two labels on their packaging: "Bulbs from Wild Source" or "Bulbs Grown from Cultivated Stock." Species harvested from the wild will be so labeled beginning with the 1990 selling season. In 1992 all minor bulbs of Dutch exportation must be appropriately labeled, and by 1995 the pact will cover the major bulb varieties.

The genera *Anemone*, *Cyclamen*, *Cypripedium*, *Galanthus*, *Iris*, *Narcissus* and *Trillium* are among those covered as minor bulbs. *Galanthus* (snow drop) is of special concern because an overwhelming majority of all bulbs sold are the product of a cottage collecting industry in its native Turkey where it is endangered. Covered as major bulbs are the more common types: tulips, hybrid daffodils and hyacinths, among others.

A spokesman for the industry emphasized that the agreement is binding only to the Dutch and that 95 percent of the 10 billion flower bulbs sold annually by Dutch exporters are propagated and grown within the borders of Holland. Also, some of the species covered are not handled by them, but by other countries. (The United States, for example, is a major exporter of *Trillium* and *Cypripedium*.)

DBG Wildflowers Hit the Streets

The Denver Botanic Gardens wildflower research project underwritten by Martin Marietta Corporation moved into an important new phase this summer with the first public planting of wildflowers developed from its investigations.

The purpose of the three-year project is to identify, collect seeds and propagate native plants of the short grass prairie to vegetate highway rights-of-way along the semi-arid Front Range, where short grass prairie was historically the dominant plant community. The Colorado Department of Highways has cooperated with the project, looking forward to reduced maintenance and water demands from these selected natives. Eventually the highways will present a beautiful scene with a distinctly Colorado identity.

The initial mix includes such showy species as yellow evening primrose, wild rose, prairie coneflower, yarrow, blue flax, gay feather, goldenrod, prickly poppy and snow-on-the-mountain.

Martin Marietta

Plants for DBG's wildflower research project have been tested and grown at the Garden's Chatfield Arboretum southwest of Denver. The project calls for several actual-use test plots: a pilot program at Martin Marietta's Waterton facility a few miles away and a fall planting of seeds in other plots along State Highway 121 (Wadsworth Boulevard), which runs near the arboretum.

Supportive volunteers from Martin Marietta planted two locations at their facility in June. DBG staff members Carol Dawson, who directed the

research project, assistant Suzanne Aeberman and gardener Loddie Dolinski advised and assisted them.

Main Street

The Interscape 25 Foundation is a non-profit civic group charged with raising funds and coordinating transformation of Interstate 25 into an attractive, environmentally sound "Main Street" for Denver. Led by the Colorado Department of Highways and the City of Denver, a score of businesses and foundations are participating to privatize not only the design and planting of this corridor but its long-term maintenance as well. Over one million vehicles weekly travel I-25 through the heart of Denver. And, although Colorado is known for its spectacular scenery, Denver's major transportation trunk has, to be charitable, a utilitarian look.

DBG provided over 1,000 perennial wildflowers for the highway's beautification. The design for this project calls for broad sweeps of flowers in traditional flower beds, mainly at primary interchanges, and does not limit the plants to prairie nativity. Highest priorities are low maintenance costs and water saving.

Tributes

In honor of the 55th Anniversary of Terry and David Touff

Patty Figel

In memory of Marty Doherty

Branch Managers of Jefferson County Public Library

(restricted to the Helen Fowler Library)

In memory of Katherine Marinoff

E. Irene Dubois

In memory of Roberta McDougal

Robin and Scott McDougal

Green Thumb News

Number 90-8 August 1990

Published monthly by the Denver Botanic Gardens education department, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Larry Latta and Carol Knepp. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in Denver Botanic Gardens. For membership information, please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000, Ext. 22.

Deadlines for this newsletter are: Major news stories, feature material (including photographs or artwork), and short notes are all due not later than August 22 for October, September 21 for November and October 22 for December.

Late material cannot be used. Stories must be typed, double-spaced, preferably on copy paper provided by the editors. Please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 42, for details.



"It's Show Time" At Gardens For Denver Rose Society

The Denver Rose Society will stage its annual rose show in John C. Mitchell II Hall Sunday, August 19, from 1 to 4:30 p.m.

Competitions — in which anyone may enter flowers — will be held for single stems and for arrangements. Entries may be presented between 7 and 10 a.m.; public viewing begins at 1 p.m. For more information about the show, themed "It's Show Time," call chairman Jo Kendzerski, 987-2333.



"Glass at the Gardens" in 11th Year at DBG

The Glass Artists Fellowship invites you to view the world through multi-colored glasses at its 11th annual show and sale at the Gardens Thursday, August 2, through Sunday, August 12.

Over the years "Glass at the Gardens" has grown to become a nationally recognized exhibition of fine glass art and has inspired smaller imitations in other cities in the U.S. and Canada. Last year nearly 10,000 people viewed the show at DBG. Undoubtedly the reason for its success is the outstanding quality of the works. Each piece

(except the small, utilitarian items) is judged by five jurors — invited from across the nation — on originality, artistry, craftsmanship and presentation. Only the finest survive the competition to be exhibited.

The show will be open each day during the Gardens' open hours, including the extended evenings on Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Through whichever color you wish to view your world, you'll find it in these brilliant glass works.

For more information call 331-4000, Ext. 42.



continued from page 1

ing her book: "Forget for a moment any ideas you may already have about cottage gardens. Don't think of Gertrude Jekyll or Claude Monet, Margery Fish or Vita Sackville-West. Banish all thoughts of Giverny or Sissinghurst. Instead, think of the gardens you pass every day, the most familiar gardens around you, and the most remarkable." In her lecture Ms. Thorpe will share her view of America's own "small, personal, individual, eccentric, spontaneous gardens created by amateurs." These folk gardens are as marvelous for their variety as they are for their creativity.

Besides *America's Cottage Gardens* Patricia Thorpe has two other current books, *The American Weekend Garden* and *Everlastings*. She is a frequent contributor to *House and Garden* magazine, appears regularly on a nationally syndicated radio call-in show and for over 15 years she has been making her own garden on a 150-acre farm in northern New York.

The Bonfils-Stanton Foundation's underwriting of this annual lecture series enables the Gardens to offer its members and other Denver area citizens nationally and internationally recognized speakers on gardening, botany and ecology. Other speakers lined up for 1990 are Barry Ferguson, New York flower arranger and garden designer (October 9), and Beth Chatto, English expert on dry gardening and author of *The Chalk Garden* (November 13).

Members will soon receive a brochure, including ticket information, on the speakers and on the series. Please reserve now the second Tuesday of each month except December so you will be able to enjoy every one of these outstanding lecture evenings.

Men's Garden Club Sells Plants, Produce Sunday, Sept. 2

The Men's Garden Club of Denver will set up its annual "farmers' market" in the parking lot of Denver Botanic Gardens House, 909 York Street, Sunday, September 2. For sale will be homegrown produce and both house and garden plants.

Proceeds assist the garden club's many educational activities and Denver Botanic Gardens' summer intern program.

When you stop by to lend your support, buying these gardeners' quality homegrown vegetables and plants, please park on either the street or in the main DBG lot between Josephine and York streets. For more information call Paul Groeger, 978-9736.

Enter your prize roses in the August 19 show — or just visit to enjoy the blossoms.

"Glass at the Gardens" artwork ranges from simple to extravagant, traditional to experimental.

Facing page:

DBG's water-lilies are most beautiful in late summer.

This page:

Bob Morrison, Steve Schouten, Ned Noack (back row), Lisa Wurnig, Kirsten Girrbaach, Debbie Nigbor and Barbara Russell (front row) are 1990 summer interns.



Endowments and Annual Support Bring Interns to Gardens

In mid-June seven college students arrived at the Gardens to begin a summer of hard work and educational enrichment as DBG interns in applied horticulture. Their internships provide them the opportunity to work alongside the Gardens' professional gardening staff and to explore interesting botanical and horticultural features along the Front Range.

The two 1990 Alice Mann Owen Internships in Applied Horticulture were awarded to Steve Schouten and Bob Morrison. Their internships are endowed by Mr. J. Churchill Owen, by bequest of Mrs. Owen and by donations from her family and friends. Steve Schouten is a senior at Colorado State University in Fort Collins working toward a Bachelor of Science degree in landscape horticulture. Bob Morrison is a botany student at Western New Mexico University in Silver City where he previously received a Master of Arts degree in teaching.

The Clara Van Schaack Phipps Internship in Applied Horticulture was awarded this year to Lisa Wurnig, a crop science major at the University of Wyoming in Laramie. Her interests are in plant genetics. Endowment of her internship was by Mr. and Mrs. Allan R. Phipps.

Other internships are underwritten by generous gifts from the Denver Botanic Gardens Guild and the Associates of Denver Botanic Gardens.

Intern Kirsten Girrbaach is a recent graduate of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in biology.

Debbie Nigbor, currently enrolled in horticulture classes at Front Range Community College in Westminster, decided to pursue a horticulture career after nine years in the oil business. She holds a Master of Science degree in geological engineering from the University of Minnesota.

Ned Noack is in the urban horticulture degree program at Front Range Community College. Previously he was senior geologist in the Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division of the Colorado Department of Health.

Barbara Russell is an environmental conservation student at the University of Colorado in Boulder where her course work emphasis is in biology.

Each year the Gardens chooses seven to 10 botany and horticulture students from the Rocky Mountain region. During the summer they gain practical gardening skills, study major ecological sites and meet area horticulturists. Their DBG experience complements their college classroom work and helps provide perspective in making career choices.

Gleanings

From HORTIDEAS newsletter, January, 1990: An information exchange for amateur vegetable gardening experimenters is being formed by Ken Allan, 536 MacDonnell St., Kingston, Ontario, Canada, K7K 4W7. He will publish an annual report of the amateur research results he receives, excluding that for which the methodology is "so sloppy that the results are meaningless." Those who report on their research will receive a copy of the annual roundup, free.

From Southwest Lawn and Landscape, June, 1990: Contributing more than \$1 billion in 1988, the green industry is 1.5 percent of the Colorado economy. Basically a family-based industry in our state, it paid out \$201.5 million in wages to 12,200 employees — 1.7 percent of the state's wage and salary jobs.

From the Water Garden Journal, March, 1990: *Saururus cernuus*, a marsh plant commonly called lizard's tail and popular among water gardeners, is being studied for its medicinal properties: Manassantin A, one of its substances, has potential for treating patients with schizophrenia and other emotional disturbances.

From Pesticide Network News, March/April/May, 1990: It was reported to a recent meeting of the Entomological Society of America that 447 species of insects, ticks and mites are now resistant to some or all pesticides. An observation by Thomas Eisner of Cornell University: "Bugs are not going to inherit the earth — they own it now. So we might as well make peace with the landlord."

Prairie Discovery Tour

Saturday, August 18
10 a.m. to noon
Plains Conservation Center

Explore the Plains Conservation Center, dedicated to preserving a part of Colorado's heritage — the prairie. You will ride out onto the prairie in a wagon, then take a walk led by the center's knowledgeable volunteers. Register in advance through the education department at the Gardens.

Meet: at the interpretive center, 21901 E. Hampden Ave., Aurora

Leaders: Volunteers of the Plains Conservation Center.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 20

Tallgrass Prairie Field Trip

Saturday, August 18
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Observe a good example of tall-grass prairie along Highway 93 between Golden and Boulder above Ralston Reservoir. The dominant grasses include big bluestem, Indian grass and little bluestem, but many others such as switchgrass, needle-and-thread and side oats gramma will be seen at their flowering peak.

Please bring a plant identification book and hand lens if you have them and don't forget your lunch.

Meet: promptly at 10 a.m., 3.3 miles north of Highway 58 (Golden) on Highway 93, at the dairy just north of 58th Avenue on the east side of the highway.

Instructor: Paul Kilburn, Ph.D., has taught prairie botany and ecology for many years.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 20

Scripture Garden Walk

(one session)

Saturday, August 25
10 to 11 a.m.

The Scripture Garden was designed to provide a living link with the people and events of the Bible. Plants that grow here are descendants of those that grew in the Holy Land thousands of years ago.

Meet: at the entrance to the Scripture Garden.

Leader: Lucile Downer is a popular guide.

Fee: \$4 members/\$4.40 non-members

Limit: 20



Aquatic Plant Walk

(one session)

Section I: Tuesday, August 28
Section II: Saturday, September 1
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Denver is well-suited to water gardening, thanks to the abundant sunshine. This is the time of year in which the hardy and tropical water lilies and many other aquatic plants are in full bloom. This stroll will introduce you to the variety that makes the display so dazzling.

Meet: at the gazebo at Water Display Garden.

Instructor: Joseph V. Tomocik has been the gardener at DBG responsible for maintaining DBG water gardens since 1982. He has lectured at DBG, Longwood Gardens and Missouri Botanical Gardens.

Fee: \$6 members/\$8 non-members

Limit: 20

Ancient Crops Garden Tour

(one session)

Section I: Wednesday, August 8
Section II: Saturday, August 11
10-11 a.m.

This new garden is planted in a symbolic four-pointed star pattern commonly used by many on the ancient Indian cultures of the Americas. Filling the pattern are food crops of these same Indians: corn, beans, squash, tomatillos, melons, amaranths

chilies and other indigenous crops adopted by the cultures. These plants have been passed down and improved upon through the generations and they are still the primary crops of meso-American Indians.

Meet: at gazebo of Herb Garden

Instructor: Karen Trout, gardener at DBG who is actively interested in native plants and southwestern anthropology.

Fee: \$5 members/\$5.50 non-members

Limit: 20

Night-Blooming Nymphaeas

(one session)

Sunday, September 2
7:30 to 9:00 p.m. **Main Pool**

Come visit the colorful night-blooming tropical water lilies. This year three giant Victorias will be displayed and with a little luck they will open on cue at sunset to fill the air with their sweet fragrance. It promises to be a memorable occasion. Cultural information will be provided in the cool of the evening and you will have time for questions and photography.

Instructor: Joe Tomocik

Fee: \$6 members/\$7.20 non-members

Limit: 20

CLASSES

Summer
1990
Denver Botanic Gardens



Discovering Diversity at Walter S. Reed Botanical Garden

(one session)

Saturday, September 8
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Walter S. Reed Botanical Garden
Bear Creek, above Evergreen

With a naturalist at your side you will discover plants and animals rarely seen by casual observers at this interesting mountain site: Abert's squirrels, rock wrens, lichens, ferns, liverworts and other unusual wildlife. Though the property is not large it has numerous microhabitats, from stream bottom to ponderosa park.

Parts of the trail are steep and rocky. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring along another pair of soft shoes you won't mind getting wet. Also bring a hand lens, field guides, lunch and drinking water.

Meet: at Walter S. Reed Botanical Garden west of Evergreen (map and directions will be mailed to you).

Leader: Jim Trammell is the DBG naturalist. He has been leading nature excursions in the region for more than 25 years.

Fee: \$16 members/\$18 non-members

Limit: 20

Hunting the Fascinating Fungi

(two sessions)

Thursday, August 16
7 to 9 p.m.

and
Saturday, August 18
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Visitor Center, Chatfield Arboretum

Learn to identify common mushrooms during the best mushroom hunting time in Colorado.

Thursday evening you will be introduced to a fascinating world: What is a mushroom? What is a spore print? Which mushrooms are edible? Which are poisonous? You will examine dried and fresh specimens and discuss field guides, maps and collecting equipment.

Saturday you will meet at the arboretum to carpool to Burning Bear Campground. Carpool expenses will be shared.

Instructor: Ken Noteman is a member of the Colorado Mycological Society and an experienced mushroom hunter and guide.

Fee: \$28 members/\$31 non-members

Limit: 20

Identification of Fall Wildflowers

(one session)

Saturday, September 15
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Polly Steele Nature Center,
Chatfield Arboretum

Do you get lost in a taxonomic key? Do those DLYF's drive you crazy? You can learn how to unravel those darn little yellow flowers — and other colors as well — in this four-hour, hands-on workshop at Chatfield Arboretum. You will study flower structure, family characteristics and the use of a simple teaching key.

Please wear comfortable walking shoes, bring your lunch and dress for the weather.

Instructor: Vickey Trammell is an avid field biologist and botanist who has been a seasonal naturalist at Roxborough State Park.

Fee: \$16 members/\$18 non-members

Limit: 15

Tree Walk for Families at Fairmount Cemetery

(one session)

Sunday, September 30
12:30 to 4:00 p.m.

(Please indicate on the registration form the number(s) of children, 8-14 years old, attending and if you plan to arrive early for a picnic.)

For Fairmount Cemetery's 100th anniversary DBG has been offering field trips to introduce you to its diverse plants. This third trip to the cemetery will emphasize autumn identification of trees.

During the summers of 1890 and '91 over 4,000 trees — including sycamores, silver maples, Kentucky coffee trees, buckeyes, seven species of oaks and several kinds of pines — were planted at Fairmount Cemetery. A walk through these mature, historic specimens will sharpen your identification skills. This seasonal trip will use leaf color and fruits as identifiers.

A covered area for an autumn picnic with your family will be provided at 12:30 p.m. Music in the Ivy Chapel will begin at 1:30 and the tree walk will leave the chapel at 2 p.m. Children 8 years and older are welcome to attend these walks; they'll be given special tree guides.

Leaders: Dr. William G. Gambill, Jr., director emeritus and taxonomist at DBG, is a former botany and biology professor. Carolyn Knepp, education assistant at DBG, has a degree in forestry and is currently completing

requirements for elementary education teaching certification.

Meet: at 2 p.m. at the Ivy Chapel to the east of the entrance at Fairmount Cemetery, located at East Alameda and Quebec streets in Denver. Bring your picnic lunch and your family and come early.

Fee: \$8.50 members/\$10.20 non-members (including \$3 for *Trail of Trees*, a 64 page, illustrated tree guide to Fairmount Cemetery)

Let it Be, Let it Rot

(one session)

Saturday, August 11
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Morrison Center
(2320 East 11th Avenue)

It doesn't smell, it's rich with organic material and it will help your garden grow. Begin to prepare your compost now and have a supply of organic material for your garden.

Instructor: Judy Elliott is an enthusiastic teacher with 15 years' organic gardening experience. She is a master gardener who serves as a conservatory guide, a preschool guide and "Dr. Green" at DBG. She has also taught several classes on organic gardening for the Gardens.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

Xeric Plants at Denver Botanic Gardens — A Seminar for Colorado Nurserymen

(one session)

Thursday, August 16
8 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Classroom C**

As a nursery person you are on the front line in educating the public — your customers — about drought-tolerant plants and water conservation in the landscape. This is an opportunity to increase your knowledge of xeric plants, using the collections at Denver Botanic Gardens.

You will observe selected plants and discuss their origin, growth characteristics, maintenance needs, landscape uses, availability and care in the nursery. Propagation, field and pot culture have been added to this year's program. There will be a one-hour break for lunch.

Please note: This is a course for professionals in the nursery industry, such as owners, sales people and growers.

Instructors: Pat Hayward of the Colorado Nurserymen's Association and Janet Caniglia of Xeriscape Colorado will coordinate this seminar.

Fee: \$24 members of DBG/\$27 non-members

Enduring Classics: Antique Flowers

Tuesdays, August 21 and 28
7 to 9 p.m. at John C. Mitchell II Hall,
Denver Botanic Gardens
Teacher: Rob Proctor

Discover the flowers that grew in the elegant gardens of kings, humble cottage-dwellers or perhaps your own grandmother. Learn about perennials, annuals, herbs, bulbs and vines appropriate for period gardens. You'll find that antique flowers are easy-to-grow, charming additions to the contemporary landscape.

Fee: \$16 members/\$17.50 non-members

Rob Proctor is an artist and writer whose book, *Antique Flowers: Perennials*, the first in a series, will be published by Harper & Row in September.

Soil and the Front Range Homeowner

Saturday, September 15
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Classroom A

How well do you know the soils around your home? By learning some simple physical and chemical properties of your soil, its parent material and its formation you can better understand plant growth and landscape design considerations.

This workshop will include a hands-on introduction to various local soils and a discussion on the management and improvement of yours. Additional instruction for xeriscape style gardening in some of the trickier soils will be included.

Instructor: Gary Finstad is the district conservationist for the Lakewood Field Office of the Soil Conservation Service. He has his degree in agronomy from the University of Wisconsin and has instructed soil conservation, ecology and weed control.

Fee: \$12 members/\$14.40 non-members

Limit: 25

The Fall Garden

Tuesday, September 18
7 to 9 p.m. **Classroom C**

Labor Day doesn't have to be the end of your gardening pleasure, with only autumn raking to look forward to. Many plants save their best for the end of the season: flowers of fall-blooming perennials, seed heads of grasses, foliage of shrubs and trees and — with cooler nights — a wonderful late flush of many annuals and roses. Join this class to meet the plants that will help make your garden an all-season success.

Instructor: Lauren Springer

Fee: \$8 members/\$9.60 non-members

Perennial Favorites

(one session)

Tuesday, September 11
7 to 9:30 p.m. **Mitchell Hall**

Join some experts in an evening of good old "plant talk." In a lively overview of perennial gardening Colorado style, each of the enthusiastic panelists will present his personal "top ten" favorites. Panelists will also discuss plants highly recommended for the inner city, the mountains and the plains. In addition, they will show some promising new plants.

Instructors: Ray Daugherty, propagator at Green Acres Nursery; Pat Hayward, perennial expert from Paulino Gardens; Panayoti Kelaidis, curator of the DBG Rock Alpine Garden; Rob Proctor, garden writer and artist; and Lauren Springer, designer and garden writer.

Fee: \$10 members/\$12 non-members

Great Gardening Style

(one session)

Saturday, September 22
1:30 to 3:30 p.m. **Mitchell Hall**

Style — how to get it, how to express it — is an often overlooked element of ornamental gardening. This class offers a look at gardens great and small, including local ones, on two continents. By observing skillful combinations of plants in well-designed beds, you can interpret the ideas for your own personal statement. Bring a pad to take notes, or simply sit back and enjoy the talk.

Instructor: Artist/author Rob Proctor is a popular DBG instructor whose garden has been featured in several national magazines. He pens the weekly column "Front Range Gardeners" for the Denver Post with fellow DBG instructor Lauren Springer.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

Bulbs in the Garden

(one session)

Tuesday, October 2
7 to 9 p.m. **Classroom C**

Now is the time to prepare for a spring garden full of lovely flowering bulbs. Learn how to get the most out of those little surprise packages: how to prepare for and plant them, the best varieties for specific sites and how to integrate them into the garden creatively.

Instructor: Lauren Springer studied horticulture at Penn State University. She is an experienced teacher who has gardened in England, Ireland, the Midwest and Colorado.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9.60 non-members



Colchicum bulbs are available to plant in August.

Watercolor Workshop

(one session)

Wednesday, August 15
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Classroom B

Spend a day in the Gardens capturing, in watercolors, the glory of August's flowers. The course includes exercises in perception and instruction in the stages of developing a painting. You should have an elementary understanding of watercolor.

Bring watercolor supplies, drawing paper, charcoal, something to sit on and your lunch.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky

Fee: \$18 members/\$20 non-members

Limit: 15

Summer Lesson in Ikebana

(one session)

Saturday, August 18
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Classroom B

This workshop is an introduction to Ikebana but can also serve as a refresher course for students who have completed the "Beginning Ikebana Lessons" class. Two arrangements will be completed in the workshop.

Please bring the following materials to class: two round or rectangular ceramic containers (no smaller than 12 inches long and two inches deep), two needlepoint flower holders (one that is two inches wide and one that is three inches wide or larger), sharp clippers, small bucket (or other container to hold flowers and water) and notebook.

Although flowers will be provided students should bring their own line material (branches).

Instructor: Joan Wooldridge is past president of Ikebana International and has teaching certificates in two schools.

Fee: \$14 members/\$16 non-members

Limit: 12

Carve-A-Summer Centerpiece Workshop

Saturday, August 25
10 a.m. to noon
Morrison Center at DBG

Be among the first to learn how to design creative centerpieces from your late-summer vegetables and fruits. Carve an elegant or humorous centerpiece that can be lit with candles for evening parties. They can also serve as containers for flowers and will certainly be a conversation piece.

Begin with watermelon and soon you'll be carving giant zucchinis, eggplants and cantaloupes at home. Using a special carving kit you can become wildly creative, turning an ordinary vegetable into a masterpiece. Please bring one or two large watermelons to class.

Instructor: Tina Goldstein is a fiber artist who studied at the University of Northern Colorado. She is an enthusiastic teacher who has taught pumpkin carving classes at the Gardens.

Fee: \$14 members/\$16 non-members (Fee includes \$6 for one carving kit.)

Limit: 20

Watercolor Painting

(five sessions)

Section I **Wednesdays,**
October 17, 24, 31,
November 7, 14
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Section II **Wednesdays,**
October 17, 24, 31,
November 7, 14
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Classroom B

Explore the sparkle and delicacy of watercolor painting while you enjoy the natural setting of Denver Botanic Gardens. This course will cover the basic materials and techniques of watercolors, with emphasis on freedom of personal expression.

Come prepared with supplies: You'll need a one-inch flat brush, #10 round brush, watercolor paper, tissues, container for water, plastic palette and cake or tube watercolors.

Section I is for returning students who wish to work with intermediate and advanced level students. Section II is for students of all levels.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky teaches art history, watercolor painting and oil painting at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design. A graduate of the University of Kharkov, and the Art College of Kharkov, U.S.S.R., he displays his work at Inkfish Art Gallery.

Fee: \$60 members/\$66 non-members

Limit: 15

'Peeping Tom' is a charming daffodil for your rock garden.



Japanese Tea Ceremony

Section XII **Saturday, Sept. 8**
Section XIII **Sunday, Sept. 16**

(one session)

2 to 3 p.m.
DBG Japanese Teahouse

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Because it emphasizes harmony, respect, tranquility and elegant simplicity, the tea ceremony has for centuries been considered the epitome of Japanese life. This is an opportunity to experience an authentic tea ceremony in the quiet splendor of our Japanese Garden.

Instructor: Kathryn Kawakami has done much to inform Denver-area residents and students about the culture of Japan.

Fee: \$4.50 members/\$5 non-members

Limit: 15

Drawing from Nature

(eight sessions)

Thursdays, September 13, 20, 27,
October 4, 11, 18, 25,
November 1

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

DBG's Morrison Center

From living plants to still lifes, from realism to abstraction, learn to see, sketch and draw natural forms and designs; then translate your black and white studies into exciting color. In this class you will receive instruction and demonstration in assorted media and subject matter.

Bring a large sketch pad, soft charcoal and drawing pencils to the first class.

Instructor: Oksana Ross, Ph.D., is an artist and art historian with 35 years' teaching experience, including instruction at U.C.D., Metropolitan State College and Colorado Women's College.

Fee: \$64 members/\$70 non-members

Limit: 20

More Lessons in Ikebana

(four sessions)

Saturdays, September 8, 15, 22,
29

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

DBG's Morrison Center

This course is for students who have had some previous instruction in Ikebana and will include an introduction to Nageire.

Please bring the following materials to class: round or rectangular ceramic flower container (no smaller than 12 inches long and two inches deep), two needle-point flower holders (one that is two inches wide and one that is three inches wide or larger), sharp clippers, small bucket (or other container to hold flowers and water), a tall (ten inches or more) container for nageire and a notebook.

Although flowers will be provided, you should bring your own line material (branches).

Instructor: Joan Wooldridge is a certified teacher of Sogetsu with other instruction in the schools of Ohara and Ikenobo.

Fee: \$44 members/\$52 non-members (includes \$12 for materials)

Limit: 12

This winter you can escape the Colorado cold and enter a tropical paradise, as you embark on a journey September 11 to become a DBG conservatory tour guide. The highlight of this experience will be the day you begin — as a trained guide — to take along others through this tropical paradise, passing on your newfound knowledge of the conservatory's interesting plants — ferns, bromeliads, palms, bamboos and many others.

Throughout the year both children and adults visit Denver Botanic Gardens to learn about our plants and gardens. During fall and winter, groups of schoolchildren from the Denver area seek our conservatory for escape from their everyday classroom blues. You can be the guide bringing appreciation to their escape. The DBG education department offers *guided* tours of the conservatory September through May. Most are on weekdays, some are on weekends.

Join Now

As a trainee you will attend ten weeks of classes September 11 through November 13. These Tuesday classes are from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The first hour of each will be spent in the classroom, the second hour in Boettcher Memorial Conservatory. You will learn many important — and trivial — facts about the conservatory and its plants. You'll also learn how to successfully lead a tour and share your botanical knowledge.

To qualify you need only to love communicating with others, to thrive on the thrill of excited children and to be able to donate several hours of your time each month. Whether or not you are already knowledgeable about plants you will benefit from these classes: You will not only learn much about the plants but will make many



Conservatory guides answer lots of questions about bananas.

new and lasting friendships among your fellow guides. After 40 hours of guiding you are eligible to attend one free class a year, paying only materials fees when applicable.

To register for this fulfilling activity complete the registration form in this newsletter and return it with a \$25 check (for materials).

Brush up!

Once a month through April, alternating on Tuesdays and Thursdays, will be a series of brown-bag lunches from noon to 1:30 p.m. to provide continuing education for both new and returning guides. In October you will learn more about the SKIP (School

Kids Into Plants) Kit used by elementary school teachers in their classrooms. Lectures from November through April include slide shows, guest speakers, group discussions and more!

All conservatory, outdoor and preschool guides and all information desk volunteers are encouraged to attend the brushup activities.

A schedule of these brown-bag sessions will be sent to each guide this month. If you have previously guided for the education department and do not receive an invitation to the lunches — or if you have questions about the new guide training classes — please call 331-4000, Ext. 20.

Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
Fees for courses should be paid in advance by charge, check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your payment is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

Enclosed is _____ to cover the registration fees for the following classes:
Name and section of class(es) _____

Name _____
Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Member ID _____
(on top line of newsletter address label)
Address _____
City _____ ZIP code _____
Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____
Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐
_____ Exp. _____
Signature _____

C

A

L

E

N

D

A

R

AUG

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies

A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a **general** indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switchboard during business hours at 331-4000.

African Violet Society, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society**, 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society**, 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club**, 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society**, 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers**, 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society**, 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International**, 4th Fri.; **Iris Society**, spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club**, 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society**, 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society**, 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society**, 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club**, 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society**, 2nd Sun. of 5 months.

S

*First meeting of a class with more than one session

5

"Glass at the Gardens"

12

"Glass at the Gardens"

19

Rose Show, Tea Ceremony

26

M

6

"Glass at the Gardens"

13

20

27

T

7

"Glass at the Gardens"

14

21

Enduring Classics: Antique Flowers*

28

Aquatic Plant Walk

W

1

8

Escape to the Gardens, Ancient Crops Garden Tour, "Glass at the Gardens"

15

Watercolor Workshop

22

29

Edible Flowers

T

2

Garden Concert, "Glass at the Gardens"

9

"Glass at the Gardens"

16

Xeric Plants Seminar, Hunting the Fascinating Fungi*, Garden Concert

23

Perennials Symposium

30

Garden Concert

F

3

Garden Concert, "Glass at the Gardens"

10

"Glass at the Gardens"

17

Garden Concert

24

31

Garden Concert

S

4

Watercolor Class, Tea Ceremony, "Glass at the Gardens"

11

Let It Be — Let It Rot, Ancient Crops Garden Tour, "Glass at the Gardens"

18

Summer Lesson in Ikebana, Prairie Discovery Tour, Tallgrass Prairie F.T.

25

Carve-A-Summer Centerpiece Workshop, Scripture Garden Walk



SCIENTIFIC
& CULTURAL
FACILITIES
DISTRICT

Denver Botanic Gardens is grateful for the funding from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District which enables the Gardens to provide additional outreach to citizens and to enhance the quality of its programs and exhibits.

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.

909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
303-331-4000

Address correction requested

TIME VALUE

August 1990



Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 205
Denver, CO



NEWS

Denver Botanic Gardens
September 1990
Number 90-9



Bonfils-Stanton Lecture on Second Tuesdays

Patricia Thorpe leads off the 1990 Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series Tuesday evening, September 11, with a colorful, insightful look at "America's Cottage Gardens." The series continues through the winter with four more evenings on the second Tuesday of each month except December.

Ms. Thorpe, a gardener and author of two books for Random House (*America's Cottage Gardens* and *The American Weekend Gardener*) will answer the question, "How have Americans adapted the traditional English cottage garden for their own private, lived-in spaces?" The results are uniquely American and reflect strong

regional influences. Ms. Thorpe's photographs abound with beauty, interest and wit.

Succeeding Bonfils-Stanton lectures will be by J. Barry Ferguson, October 9; John Brookes, November 13; David Tarrant, January 8; and J.C. Raulston, February 12. Members' price for individual lectures is \$5—\$20 for the series. Individual and series prices for nonmembers are \$8 and \$32. If you haven't received your Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series brochure describing these fascinating, informative evenings, call the DBG education department, 331-4000, Ext. 20, for information.

Outdoor, Indoor Dividend Plants Await Members

It's time for members to receive their yearly free plants. You may pick up your 1990 membership dividend plant in the patio outside the gift shop Saturday, September 8, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. An interesting selection awaits you.

For your yard: *Rhamnus smithii*, Smith's buckthorn, is a small shrubby tree with glossy foliage that tends to turn red in the fall. *Ulmus parvifolia*, the true Chinese elm, is a beautiful 40-foot tree, apparently resistant to Dutch elm disease. Its small leaves offer good, deep red fall color. *Anemone canadensis*, mountain anemone, is a native with white spring flowers on 10-inch stems. It prefers a moist, shady garden.
continued on page 3

DBG Co-Sponsors Organically Grown Press Reception

Denver Botanic Gardens joins with the Colorado Organic Producers Association (COPA) to sponsor a briefing for the press Tuesday, September 11. The reception, part of a week of activities September 10-16 that has been declared by Governor Roy Romer "Colorado Organically Grown Week," will focus attention on the organic farming and sustainable agriculture movements in Colorado. Representatives of Front Range media will be treated to a brunch of foods organically grown in the state and will hear government and industry speakers extol the benefits and advances in organic agriculture.

The Gardens has long been a practitioner of minimum-impact horticulture. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) was instituted in Boettcher Memorial Conservatory more than a decade ago. The community gardens rely on organic pest control and have active composting and soil building policies. Also, the Vegetable Demonstration Garden is organically managed; the Gardens offers many classes in organic gardening; and, of course, DBG's advocacy of xeriscaping and the use of native, dryland plants for landscaping complements the philosophy of sustainable agriculture at the ornamental level.

COPA is a nonprofit support group for farmers and ranchers that raise organic produce and meats. The press briefing at the Gardens coincides with a Washington, D.C., press conference with President George Bush, part of the national "Organically Grown Week 1990" activities. For more information call COPA spokesperson Peg Shanan, 440-8023.

Inside:

Gesneriad Show and Sale
page 3

Allied Artists Show and Sale
page 3

Composting
page 4

Beginning Bonsai
page 7

Carnivorous Plants
page 7

September Bird Walk
page 8

Random House author Patricia Thorpe talks on America's cottage gardens Sept. 11.
(Photo by Richard Duncan)

DBG's new
finance officer
Fred Weiss

Gardens Gains Two New Managers

Denver Botanic gardens executive director Bruce D. Alexander has announced appointments to fill two new positions in DBG's management staff. Robert L. (Rob) Dey is now Managing Director of the Community Affairs and Development Department. Fred J. Weiss fills the post of Chief Financial Officer.

Rob Dey comes to the Gardens from Colorado State University where he was chief development officer and, also, the executive vice-president, managing director and chief operating officer of the CSU Foundation. He previously served seven years for Ketchum, Inc., as senior director and international consultant. There he specialized in capital fund raising campaigns and executive recruitment for nonprofit corporations. He's had an extensive career in university and other nonprofit development.

New develop-
ment manager
Rob Dey



Fred Weiss brings 15 years' experience in finance, accounting, organizational development and operations to the Gardens. As a consultant — Fred Weiss and Associates — he specialized in preparing business plans and financing packages, including organizing his clients' accounting procedures and developing systems for financial reporting and data analysis. For eight years before, he was president and chief financial officer of Denver Energy Controls, Inc.

Both Dey and Weiss join the Gardens in leadership roles critical for the Gardens' success as it embarks upon an era of expanding programs and improving services.

Tributes

In honor of Ruth Porter Waring's 101st Birthday

Mrs. John Brooks
Mrs. Caroline Rickenbaugh
Mrs. Susan Sheridan

In memory of Joyce Arneill

Jane Silverstein Ries

In memory of Mrs. Peggy Boerstler

Mrs. Robert S. Gast, Jr.

In memory of Larry Dave Bracken

Judy and Ron Hillebrandt
Colleen and Chris Kessler

In memory of Martin Chadwick

David and Lois Ferguson

In memory of Dorothy McGlone

Forrest McGlone

In memory of Ben Weil

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Appel

DBG plains
garden is an
enchanted spot
for a late
summer stroll.



DBG Designated Colorado Xeriscape Archive

Researchers and other students of xeriscaping will find their quest for information leading them to Denver Botanic Gardens after Wednesday, September 19, when the Gardens' Helen Fowler Library is dedicated as the site of the Colorado Xeriscape Archive. The ceremony will acknowledge the transfer to DBG of papers formerly scattered among several other pioneer agencies and organizations in the state's xeriscape movement.

The occasion marks an important advancement for the Gardens as a leader in the formation of a sensible regional landscaping approach. Present will be representatives from the Denver Water Board, the Colorado Xeriscape Council, the National Xeriscape Council and area nurseries and landscapers specializing in water-conserving design and plants.

All who are interested in xeriscaping are encouraged to attend the ceremony, which will include a press conference and refreshments. It begins at 7:30 p.m. in John C. Mitchell II Hall. For more information call DBG librarian Solange Gignac, 331-4000, or Jan Caniglia of the Colorado Xeriscape Council, 980-5132.

Supporting Members Visit 85 Gardens Free

Denver Botanic Gardens members at the "supporting" level (\$100 per year) or above now have free admission privileges at 85 botanic gardens and arboreta in the U.S., Canada and Israel. If you'd like more information call the membership office at 331-4000, Ext. 22.

Green Thumb News Number 90-9 September 1990

Published monthly by Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Larry Latta and Carol Knepp. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in Denver Botanic Gardens. For membership information please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000, Ext. 22.

Deadlines for this newsletter are: September 21 for November, October 22 for December and November 22 for January.

Stories must be typed, double-spaced, preferably on copy paper provided by the editors. Please call 331-4000, Ext. 42, for details.



Accredited by the
American Association
of Museums

Correction: Men's Garden Club Sale Saturday, Sept. 1

Jim Arduser, 1990 president of the Men's Garden Club of Denver, has corrected the date of the club's produce and plant sale: It is Saturday, September 1, not as previously reported. The sale, held in the parking lot at 909 York Street, starts at 9 a.m.

3 G's Hold Gesneriad Show At Gardens

Saturday and Sunday, September 8 and 9, are the dates of this year's show and sale by the Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers. In addition to gloxinias and other common members of the African violet family, the club will display and sell many kinds of gesneriads not frequently seen: Members of the 3 G's (as they call themselves) avidly pursue unusual plants.

Set-up and judging, open only to participants, are Saturday morning. Public hours of both the show and the sale are 1 to 4:45 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Sunday. For more information call chairman Miriam Denham, 442-1020.

September At the Gardens Ends with Art Show

The Gardens' September activities wind down with an exhibit by the Denver Allied Artists Tuesday through Sunday, September 25 through 30. Hours of the show are 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. each day. DBG members are invited to a preview reception in John C. Mitchell II Hall Tuesday evening from 5:30 until 8.

The Denver Allied Artists work in all media. All works will be for sale. For more information call 750-0897.

September Free Day

The Gardens will waive its regular gate fee at 1005 York Street Thursday, September 13, giving members the opportunity to bring friends to see our late summer splendor. Prime destinations will be the plains garden to see the beautiful grasses and the water gardens for the water lilies. The cool nights and clear, warm days of September should also have the annual displays glowing spectacularly.

This free day is for all Colorado citizens and is for the York Street gardens only; the regular \$1 admission fee at Chatfield Arboretum will be in effect.



DBG executive director Bruce Alexander' (right), DBG trustee Mrs. John D. Woods, and Denver Art Museum executive director Lewis Sharp gathered at a July 17 "Island Garden of Celia Thaxter" press reception.

continued from page 1

Abies concolor, white fir, will attain a height of 80 feet in as many years, given the moisture that it demands. With its grey-green needles it reminds you of the Colorado blue spruce, but its needles are much softer. *Erica herbacea*, heather, is a ground-hugging plant for an acid, northern (but not heavily shaded) exposure. And *Dianthus gratianopolitans*, cheddar pink, is a good rock garden plant whose bright pink flowers contrast prettily with its low grey foliage.

For indoors: *Wedelia trilobata* is a trailer with glossy foliage and bright yellow "daisy" flowers — perfect for a hanging basket in a sunny window. *Cuphea hyssopifolia*, Hawaiian or false heather, blooms with many small purple flowers among its delicate foliage. *Acalypha repens*, straw-

berry firetails, or miniature chenille plant, is another good basket plant. *Spathiphyllum 'Petite'*, a small variety of spathe flower, grows and blooms well in deep shadow. *Pilea nummulariifolia*, creeping Charlie, is an attractive, small pot plant.

Begonia 'Grey Feather' is a large angel wing type with long dark green, silver-veined leaves. *Begonia 'Concord'* is smaller and has glossy, winged leaves with red undersides. *Begonia foliosa*, fern-leaved begonia, drapes curtains of tiny oval leaves and has pendant red flowers. *Scilla violacea* is a small bulbous plant whose leaves are olive green with silver blotching, wine red underneath. And *Pentas lanceolata 'Pink Starlight'*, the pink Egyptian star-cluster, is a nice bushy tropical with clusters of bright pink blossoms.

Members' Plant Dividend — 1990

This coupon entitles you to one free plant per membership. Please complete it before making your selection, cut it out and exchange it for your plant on September 8.

Name _____

Member ID _____
(on top line of newsletter address label)

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Bring this coupon with you!

Gardening: Make Compost Now for Results Next Year

As the active gardening season winds down gardeners think of ways to improve the soil for next year's perennial, annual and vegetable gardens. Naturally, with recycling a high priority for us, making a working compost pile is first on the list of fall gardening tasks: Compost is the single best soil improver we can use.

The alkaline, semi-desert, clay soils that dominate the Front Range contain little decomposed vegetation; they need the addition of copious quantities of organic matter to support the vigorous growth of productive plants.

Compost opens up the small pores of tightly bound clay particles to make it easier for roots, water and nutrients to penetrate. It also has spaces for air, necessary for good plant growth. It stimulates friendly fungi and other organisms that are natural enemies of undesirable fungi, nematodes, cut-

.....

The adage, "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts," aptly applies to composting benefits.

.....

worms and insects. Usually neutral or slightly acid, it helps neutralize the pH of the soil. Compost, unlike peat moss, is also loaded with nutrients, both major and minor. Most importantly, compost has the ability to hold up to 100 percent of its weight in water. The adage, "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts," aptly applies to composting benefits.

What goes into a compost pile? Compost is primarily the product of organic (carboniferous) materials that have been broken down by beneficial microorganisms. So we must not only provide organic matter, but we must feed and care for the microorganisms that are doing the work. The major chemical ingredients necessary for a good, working compost pile are carbon compounds (the basic raw materials) and nitrogen (the main fuel for the microorganisms). High concentrations of carbon compounds are found in dry, "woody" plant material: straw, leaves, thick stems (such as old cabbage or broccoli plants), twigs and wood chips. Nitrogen is abundant in lush, fresh plant parts, grass clippings and weeds. (Most weed seeds and pathogens in a well run compost pile are eliminated by thermal action. As the microbes work and multiply, they create an amazing amount of heat.) Nitrogen is also present in manures, most animal parts (except fat) and kitchen scraps. To enrich your final product with nutrients you can

also add soft phosphate or bone meal and kelp meal (seaweed).

Additionally you need to supply the microorganisms, since they're living things, with air (for the oxygen it holds) and water.

The procedure for building the pile is fairly straight forward. To begin, try to situate it in a shaded location, such as under a tree. This will make it easier to keep it moist. Aim for an optimum size of three feet on each side in order to keep the heat from dissipating.

.....

The procedure for building the pile is fairly straightforward.

.....

Open the ground under the pile's location with a pitchfork or shovel; then for bottom aeration put down an initial layer of course twigs, sunflower stems or cornstalks. Alternate layers of dry (high carbon) materials with wet (green, high nitrogen) materials. Each layer should be about 4-6 inches deep. If at all possible, chop or grind — as finely as possible — all materials to be incorporated. This increases the surface area of the material, creating additional "fronts" from which the microorganisms can "attack". Sprinkle a few shovels of garden soil on top of the first couple of layers to introduce the microorganisms which facilitate decomposition.

Moisten the layers until they feel like a wrung out sponge. Continue the layering process as your late summer and early fall gardening activities provide more plant materials. Whenever you have them, add vegetable peelings, coffee grounds, egg shells and fish trimmings — but be careful of adding meat, cheese or fat. They could attract flies and vermin. Keep the top of your pile covered with plastic to conserve moisture and heat.

Turn your compost pile once a week for the first month, stirring the ingredients well. Try to mix the bottom of the pile, which heats up first, into the top. On occasion, until spring, make sure your pile stays aerated and moistened, and by planting time nature's miracle microorganisms will have recycled your garden and kitchen "wastes" into "brown gold" for your soil and for a successful gardening season.

Judy Elliott is an organic gardener who mixes compost enthusiastically as part of her duties in the DBG community gardens.



Gleanings

From American Horticulturist magazine, June, 1990: Ann Jovejoy writes in "Gardening Where We Live," "No matter what is trendy, our individual tastes and personal plant loves should shape our own gardens more than pressures of fashion or the dreary dictates of 'good design.' Any original, however eclectic, has more life and character than the most tasteful copy."

From National Xeriscape News, March/April, 1990: In its "Cash for Grass" campaign the North Marin Water District (Novato, California) is offering residential water users \$50 for each 100 square feet of lawn that is removed and replaced with water-conserving plant materials.

From Pesticide Network News, March/April/May, 1990: Empty containers in your own backyard may be mosquito nurseries. "As many as 10,000 adult mosquitos can originate from one coffee can of water."

From the Avant Gardener, August, 1990: Cotton now comes in shades of brown and green — with yellow, blue and lavender coming soon — naturally. Californian Sally Fox bred the new plants that produce colored bolls and whose fibers need no chemical dyes.

From The Public Garden magazine, April, 1990: A schoolchild interviewed at Cornell Plantations, Ithaca, New York, said of plant nutrition, "Trees eat dirt, but squirrels carry in enough dirt so you can't tell."

DBG's Xeriscape Demonstration Garden displays showy plants for water conservation.

Old-fashioned Flowers: Hollyhocks

Hollyhocks have such an ancient entry into cultivation that their species origin has been obscured by time. They first appeared in the Orient, perhaps China, but no wild examples have ever been found. The ancestor of all hollyhocks was probably born of a chance floral liaison in an unobserved corner of an Oriental garden.

What a fortuitous turn of nature that was. The resulting lineage produced some of the stateliest, most colorful and romantic flowers ever to grace Occidental landscapes. In Europe, since well before the time of Shakespeare, their huge satiny blossoms have glowed from the back of flower borders — placed at the rear not because of their dubious, perhaps illegitimate origin but because their unbowing pride tends to overwhelm more refined garden plants.

During the 17th and 18th centuries their variety grew to the hundreds, with all shades of red (from nearly black to palest rose), white and yellow blossoms, in solids and stripes, with both single and double forms. They reached the height of their English popularity under the reign of Queen Victoria, and were established in the Americas early in the 1600s. They soon came to epitomize our English gardening heritage and were, early on, considered “old-fashioned.”

However, hollyhocks eventually fell into disrepute, and for years during the middle of this century were relegated to the ash-laden soil out back near the household incinerator, where they kept company with other alley weeds.

Due to the ballyhoo supporting new efforts at hybridizing, hollyhocks are now re-emerging from neglect. And rightfully so. Grown in deep, organically enriched soil and given the water, sun and attention of other common perennials they lend an antique, if robust, charm to all but the smallest modern garden. And if the height of their flowering stalk, which can attain nine feet (lovingly grown), is overpowering it can be topped when the plant has nearly reached two feet. It readily multiplies its branches and these, in turn, can be pruned again to achieve a dense, tamed pyramid of blossoms later in the summer.

Hollyhocks, given the name *Alcea* (formerly *Althaea*) *rosea*, are usually treated as biennials, planted in late spring to bloom the following year, but individual plants may become perennial under favorable conditions. Easy to grow from seed, these old-fashioned stalwarts are ready today for re-evaluation and re-entry into respectable garden borders, even if they must still remain toward the back.

Class locations:

Classrooms A, B and C are at 1005 York Street, Denver.

The DBG Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center is at 2320 East 11th Avenue, Denver.

Chatfield Arboretum is at 9201 South Car Street, Littleton (southwest of Wadsworth Boulevard and C-470).

Soil and the Front Range Homeowner

Saturday, Sept. 15
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Classroom A

How well do you know the soils around your home? By learning some simple physical and chemical properties of your soil, its parent material and its formation you can better understand plant growth and landscape design considerations.

This workshop will include a hands-on introduction to various local soils and a discussion on the management and improvement of yours. Additional instruction for xeriscape style gardening in some of the trickier soils will be included.

Instructor: Gary Finstad is the district conservationist for the Lakewood Field Office of the Soil Conservation Service. He has his degree in agronomy from the University of Wisconsin and has instructed soil conservation, ecology and weed control.

Fee: \$12 members/\$14.40 non-members

Limit: 25

Great Gardening Style

(one session)

Saturday, Sept. 22
1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Mitchell Hall

Style — how to get it, how to express it — is an often overlooked element of ornamental gardening. This class offers a look at gardens great and small, including local ones, on two continents. By observing skillful combinations of plants in well-designed beds, you can interpret the ideas for your own personal statement. Bring a pad to take notes, or simply sit back and enjoy the talk.

Instructor: Artist/author Rob Proctor is a popular DBG instructor whose garden has been featured in several national magazines. He pens the weekly column “Front Range Gardeners” for the Denver Post with fellow DBG instructor Lauren Springer.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 non-members

Perennial Favorites

(one session)

Thursday, Sept. 20
7 to 9:30 p.m. Mitchell Hall

Join some experts in an evening of good old “plant talk.” In a lively overview of perennial gardening Colorado style, each of the enthusiastic panelists will present his personal “top ten” favorites. Panelists will also discuss plants highly recommended for the inner city, the mountains and the plains. In addition, they will show some promising new plants.

Instructors: Ray Daugherty, propagator at Green Acres Nursery; Pat Hayward, perennial expert from Paulino Gardens; Panayoti Kelaïdis, curator of the DBG Rock Alpine Garden; Rob Proctor, garden writer and artist; and Lauren Springer, designer and garden writer.

Fee: \$10 members/\$12 non-members

The Fall Garden

Tuesday, September 18
7 to 9 p.m. Classroom C

Labor Day doesn't have to be the end of your gardening pleasure, with only autumn raking to look forward to. Many plants save their best for the end of the season: flowers of fall-blooming perennials, seed heads of grasses, foliage of shrubs and trees and — with cooler nights — a wonderful late flush of many annuals and roses. Join this class to meet the plants that will help make your garden an all-season success.

Instructor: Lauren Springer

Overwintering Your Aquatic Plants

Sunday, Sept. 23
1 to 3 p.m. Classroom C

What should you do to keep your aquatic plants over winter? If you have a collection, don't dispose of it — save it. Receive instruction in the winter care of hardy and tropical water lilies, lotus and emergent plants.

Instructor: Joseph V. Tomocik, horticulturist of the DBG water gardens since 1982, has lectured at DBG, Longwood Gardens and Missouri Botanical Gardens.

Fee: \$8 members/\$11 nonmembers

CLASSES

Summer
1990
Denver Botanic Gardens

Growing cacti is a popular pastime. Here DBG life trustee Moras Shubert admires DBG collection.



Cacti for Beginners

Wednesday, Oct. 3

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom C

Discover the basics of growing these prickly wonders in your home. Learn about their physiology, cultural requirements and individual characteristics and receive demonstrations on potting, mixing soil and elementary propagation. Growing cacti under lights and sources — local and mail order — will be covered.

Instructors: All are key members of the Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society. Kay and H.V. Rodman are commercial growers and past chairmen of shows and sales at DBG. Jim Sykes is a highly respected and enthusiastic cactophile who was recently awarded the first Jim Sykes Hobbyist Award by the society.

Fee: \$8 members/\$10 nonmembers

Prairie Gardening

Thursday, Oct. 4

**6:30 to 9 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum
Visitor Center**

Prairie landscapes are more than blue grama and buffalo grass. You can add wildflowers to these warm season grasses to complement their natural beauty. In this class you will learn the principles of xeriscaping and get ideas for plants and plans.

Instructor: Horticulturist Rick Brune, a pioneer in prairie gardening and an expert on plants of the plains, was instrumental in the creation of the Laura Smith Porter Plains Garden at DBG.

Fee: \$10 members/\$12 nonmembers

Limit: 15

Bulbs in the Garden

(one session)

Tuesday, Oct. 2

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom C

Now is the time to prepare for a spring garden full of lovely flowering bulbs. Learn how to get the most out of those little surprise packages: how to prepare for and plant them, the best varieties for specific sites and how to integrate them into the garden creatively.

Instructor: Lauren Springer studied horticulture at Penn State University. She is an experienced teacher who has gardened in England, Ireland, the Midwest and Colorado.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9.60 non-members

Forcing Bulbs

Saturday, Oct. 6

**9:30 to 11 a.m.
Classroom B**

The process of encouraging spring-flowering bulbs to bloom by other than naturally occurring conditions is called forcing. Learn this procedure so that you can enjoy an assortment of spring blossoms indoors while it is cold and dreary outside.

You will pot several types of bulbs during class to take home to enjoy during the winter holidays.

Instructor: DBG education director Patricia Pachuta is a horticulturist and experienced teacher.

Fee: \$14 members/\$17 nonmembers (includes \$8 for materials)

Limit: 15

Winterize Your Rose Garden

Sunday, Oct. 7 Classroom B

1 to 2:30 p.m.

Learn how to prepare your roses for winter. This class will include discussion and instruction as well as a tour (weather permitting) of the rose gardens at DBG.

Instructor: All-American Rose Selection judge Joan Franson is a member of the Denver Rose Society and regularly teaches rose gardening and arranging.

Fee: \$6 members/\$7 nonmembers

Beginning Bonsai

(four sessions)

**Thursdays,
Oct. 4, 11, 18 & 25**

7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Classroom B

This popular introductory course will cover the history and cultural techniques of bonsai — creating dwarf trees. You'll learn styling, training, potting and caring for bonsai.

You will take home a completed new bonsai. All materials are provided.

Instructors: Keith Jeppson, past president of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society, is a hobbyist with 17 years' experience. Harold Sasaki is a commercial grower with 18 years of experience. Both are lively, capable, popular teachers.

Fee: \$54 members/\$60 nonmembers (includes \$22 for materials)

Limit: 16

Perennial Pleasures

(five sessions)

**Tuesdays, Oct. 16, 23, 30,
Nov. 6 (skip 13) & 20**

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom C

With proper planning and planting perennials can enhance your garden with long-term beauty and reduced maintenance. Learn garden design, soil preparation and cultivation and become acquainted with a multitude of perennials. Plants for special situations, such as shady areas, will also be discussed. You will have ample opportunity to ask questions.

Instructor: Andrew Pierce, assistant director of DBG, is an accomplished grower of perennials and alpine plants whose garden has been featured in several national magazines.

Fee: \$40 members/\$48 nonmembers

Limit: 18

Carnivorous Plants

Thursday, Oct. 25

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom A

These "monster plants" are nature's contribution to the Halloween spirit. Their unusual dining habits intrigue young and old alike. This class will introduce you to their amazing characteristics and help you grow them successfully. You will meet pitcher plants, Venus flytraps, sundews and bladderworts. You'll also take home a potted plant.

Instructor: Joseph V. Tomocik

Fee: \$11 members/\$13 nonmembers (includes \$3 for plant)

Limit: 30



Phalaenopsis are among the orchids you will encounter in October classes.

The Case of the African Violet

Saturday, Nov. 3

9:30 a.m. to noon Classroom B

Learn basic African violet care: lighting, feeding, watering, temperature control, cleaning, soils, pests and propagation. You may also bring a couple of your African violets to this hands-on workshop to learn why they won't grow — or why they have grown too tall.

Bring a clean, sharp knife and, if you wish, a pest-free plant or two from your own collection. The instructor will provide cuttings.

Instructor: Debbie Griffith has been growing African violets for 12 years. She is currently president of the Rocky Mountain African Violet Council and a senior show judge.

Fee: \$14 members/\$16 nonmembers (includes \$4 for materials)

Limit: 20

Orchids You Will Want to Know

(two sessions)

**Section I Thursdays,
Oct. 11 & 25**

**Section II Saturdays,
Oct. 13 & 27**

10 a.m. to noon Classroom B

(Please indicate your section on the registration form.)

Orchids are highly specialized members of the plant kingdom and, although many are tropical, they can be grown indoors in Denver.

In the first session you will cover the basic biology of orchids: their natural history, unique physiology and ecology. In the second session you will receive a thorough overview of selections for your home or greenhouse and learn how to mix the soil, grow orchids under lights and solve the problems that arise in our arid climate.

Instructor: Paula Ogilvie is president of the Denver Orchid Society and teaches biology and plant physiology at the University of Denver.

Fee: \$16 members/\$19 nonmembers

You'll spot abundant migrating birds in the Chatfield Arboretum wetlands and grasslands.



September Bird Walk

Wednesday, Sept. 12

8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**Chatfield Arboretum
Visitor Center**

Enjoy a quiet stroll among the cottonwoods and willows to observe and identify birds of the arboretum. Great horned owls, northern orioles, goldfinches, lazuli buntings and great blue herons are among the favorites seen on late-summer walks.

Bring binoculars, field guides, hiking boots and clothing appropriate for the weather. Picnic tables are available for lunch.

Instructor: Ann Bonnell is an organizing member of the Tuesday Birders and is an active member of the Denver Field Ornithologists and the Denver Audubon Society.

Fee: \$4 members/\$5 nonmembers

Limit: 12

October Bird Walk

Wednesday, Oct. 10

8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**Chatfield Arbortum
Visitor Center**

Their migratory routes bring many kinds of birds through the woods and wetlands of the arboretum. Take this opportunity to observe herons, cormorants and other October visitors.

Bring binoculars, field guides, hiking boots and clothing appropriate for the weather. Picnic tables are available for lunch.

Instructor: Ann Bonnell

Fee: \$4 members/\$5 nonmembers

Limit: 12

Intermediate Bird Watching

(two sessions)

Wednesdays, Sept. 19 & 26

8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**Chatfield Arboretum
Visitor Center**

This class is for the birder who has previously taken a beginning bird watching class or has some birding experience. In the first session you will observe the birds of Deer Creek and Chatfield Arboretum. The following week you will travel to Chatfield State Recreation Area for further field observations.

Dress for outdoor activities and bring binoculars, field guides, drinking water and a morning snack.

Instructor: Ann Bonnell

Fee: \$24 members/\$29 nonmembers (An additional day-use state park entrance fee of \$3 will be required for each vehicle on September 26. Car pooling is encouraged.)

Limit: 15

Discovering Diversity at Walter S. Reed Botanical Garden

(one session)

Saturday, Sept. 8

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Walter S. Reed Botanical Garden
Bear Creek, above Evergreen**

With a naturalist at your side you will discover plants and animals rarely seen by casual observers at this interesting mountain site: Abert's squirrels, rock wrens, lichens, ferns, liverworts and other unusual wildlife. Though the property is not large it has numerous microhabitats, from stream bottom to ponderosa park.

Parts of the trail are steep and rocky. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring along another pair of soft shoes you won't mind getting wet. Also bring a hand lens, field guides, lunch and drinking water.

Meet: at Walter S. Reed Botanical Garden west of Evergreen (map and directions will be mailed to you).

Leader: Jim Trammell is the DBG naturalist. He has been leading nature excursions in the region for more than 25 years.

Fee: \$16 members/\$18 nonmembers

Limit: 20

Night-Blooming Nymphaeas

(one session)

Sunday, Sept. 2
7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Main Pool

Come visit the colorful night-blooming tropical water lilies. This year three giant Victorias will be displayed and with a little luck they will open on cue at sunset to fill the air with their sweet fragrance. It promises to be a memorable occasion. Cultural information will be provided in the cool of the evening and you will have time for questions and photography.

Instructor: Joe Tomocik

Fee: \$6 members/\$7.20 nonmembers

Limit: 20

Identification of Fall Wildflowers

Saturday, Sept. 15
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Polly Steele Nature Center,
Chatfield Arboretum**

Do you get lost in a taxonomic key? Do those DLYF's drive you crazy? You can learn how to unravel those darn little yellow flowers — and other colors as well — in this four-hour, hands-on workshop at Chatfield Arboretum. You will study flower structure, family characteristics and the use of a simple teaching key.

Please wear comfortable walking shoes, bring your lunch and dress for the weather.

Instructor: Vickey Trammell is an avid field biologist and botanist who has been a seasonal naturalist at Roxborough State Park.

Fee: \$16 members/\$18 nonmembers

Limit: 15

Tree Walk for Families at Fairmount Cemetery

Sunday, Sept. 30
12:30 to 4:00 p.m.

(Please indicate on the registration form the number(s) of children, 8-14 years old, attending and if you plan to arrive early for a picnic.)

For Fairmount Cemetery's 100th anniversary DBG has been offering field trips to introduce you to its diverse plants. This third trip to the cemetery will emphasize autumn identification of trees.

During the summers of 1890 and '91 over 4,000 trees — including sycamores, silver maples, Kentucky coffee trees, buckeyes, seven species of oaks and several kinds of pines — were planted at Fairmount Cemetery. A



*One clone?
Learn all about
aspens in the
Sept. 27 class.*

walk through these mature, historic specimens will sharpen your identification skills. This seasonal trip will use leaf color and fruits as identifiers.

A covered area for an autumn picnic with your family will be provided at 12:30 p.m. Music in the Ivy Chapel will begin at 1:30 and the tree walk will leave the chapel at 2 p.m. Children 8 years and older are welcome to attend these walks; they'll be given special tree guides.

Leaders: Dr. William G. Gambill, Jr., director emeritus and taxonomist at DBG, is a former botany and biology professor. Carolyn Knepp, education assistant at DBG, has a degree in forestry.

Meet: at 2 p.m. at the Ivy Chapel to the east of the entrance at Fairmount Cemetery, located at East Alameda and Quebec streets in Denver.

Fee: \$8.50 members/\$10.20 non-members (including \$3 for *Trail of Trees*, a 64 page, illustrated tree guide to Fairmount Cemetery)

Golden Aspens and Their Natural History

Thursday, Sept. 27

6 to 8:30 p.m.
DBG Morrison Center

Do you know that all aspen trees in each stand share the same genetic composition? Why are some trees more vulnerable to disease than others?

In this slide illustrated class you will learn the interesting natural history of Colorado's aspen communities, including many plant, animal, soil and climatic relationships.

Instructor: Tina Jones is a popular field trip leader and naturalist who studied alpine ecosystems at the University of Colorado research station near Ward, Colorado.

Fee: \$10 members/\$12 nonmembers

Instructor Boris Shoshensky, an accomplished artist, uses the Gardens for inspiration.



Watercolor Painting

(five sessions)

Section I

(for returning students)

Wednesdays,
Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26
& Oct. 3

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Section II

Wednesdays,
Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26
& Oct. 3

6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Section III

(for returning students)

Wednesdays,
Oct. 17, 24, 31,
Nov. 7 & 14

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Section IV

Wednesdays,
Oct. 17, 24, 31,
Nov. 7 & 14
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Classroom B

(Please indicate your section on the registration form.)

Explore the sparkle and delicacy of watercolor painting while you enjoy the natural setting of Denver Botanic Gardens.

This course will cover the basic materials and techniques of watercolors, with emphasis on freedom of personal expression. Come prepared with supplies. You'll need a one-inch flat brush, #10 round brush, watercolor paper, tissues, container for

water, plastic palette and cake or tube watercolors.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky teaches art history, watercolor painting and oil painting at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design.

Fee: \$60 members/\$72 nonmembers

Limit: 15

Drawing from Nature

(eight sessions)

Thursdays, Sept. 13, 20, 27,
Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25,
Nov. 1

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

DBG's Morrison Center

From living plants to still lifes, from realism to abstraction, learn to see, sketch and draw natural forms and designs; then translate your black and white studies into exciting color. In this class you will receive instruction and demonstration in assorted media and subject matter.

Bring a large sketch pad, soft charcoal and drawing pencils to the first class.

Instructor: Oksana Ross, Ph.D., is an artist and art historian with 35 years' teaching experience, including instruction at U.C.D., Metropolitan State College and Colorado Women's College.

Fee: \$64 members/\$70 nonmembers

Limit: 20

Autumn Flower Arranging

Monday, Oct. 22

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Classroom C

Create natural style floral arrangements full of the warm, inviting colors of fall. You are encouraged to begin now to gather and dry grasses and other materials to include in your arrangements.

You may cut some plants at the Gardens during the class (depending on the weather) and others will be purchased and provided. Please bring your own containers and flower snips, as well as a container (small bucket) for holding water and fresh flowers. A piece of floral foam or needle-point flower holder and wire cutters or pruning shears will be useful. Also, bring a lunch to class.

Instructor: An experienced floral designer and teacher, Julia Dobbins has studied arranging in both the United States and England.

Fee: \$31 members/\$35 nonmembers (includes \$15 for flowers)

Limit: 12

Papermaking Workshop

Saturday, Oct. 6

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
DBG Morrison Center

The art of making paper by hand — one of the oldest, most beautiful crafts — is currently enjoying a worldwide renaissance. This workshop will introduce you to the history and techniques of papermaking and give you an opportunity to make some of your own.

Please bring lunch, rubber gloves, apron, a plastic bowl or found objects for casting, cardboard sheets and a garbage bag to carry your work home.

Instructor: Peggy Johnston studied art education at the University of Wyoming and has extensive teaching experience.

Fee: \$28 members/\$34 nonmembers (Additional \$15 for materials is payable to the instructor.)

Limit: 12

More Lessons in Ikebana

(four sessions)

Saturdays, Sept. 8, 15, 22,
29

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
DBG's Morrison Center

This course is for students who have had some previous instruction in Ikebana and will include an introduction to Nageire.

Please bring the following materials to class: round or rectangular ceramic flower container (no smaller than 12 inches long and two inches deep), two needle-point flower holders (one that is two inches wide and one that is three inches wide or larger),

Embossed Cards of Handmade Paper

Saturday, Nov. 3

9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
DBG Morrison Center

Create beautiful white-on-white embossed cards for yourself or for gifts. You will begin by making your own white paper from 100 percent rag pulp. Then you will design and prepare a low-relief mold into which you will press your fresh sheets of handmade paper. You'll leave the class with one-of-a-kind cards.

Come prepared with a simple natural pattern to fit a 5½ by 4¼ inch card. Also bring lunch, rubber gloves, apron, a plastic bowl and a large plastic bag to carry your work home.

Instructor: Peggy Johnston

Fee: \$33.50 members/\$38.50 nonmembers (includes \$7.50 for materials)

Limit: 10

sharp clippers, small bucket (or other container to hold flowers and water), a tall (ten inches or more) container for nageire and a notebook.

Although flowers will be provided, you should bring your own line material (branches).

Instructor: Joan Wooldridge is a certified teacher of Sogetsu with other instruction in the schools of Ohara and Ikenobo.

Fee: \$44 members/\$52 nonmembers (includes \$12 for materials)

Limit: 12

Decorating Grapevine Wreaths

Saturday, Nov. 10

12:30 to 3:30 p.m.
DBG Morrison Center

Decorate your own unique grapevine wreath with natural materials. You will receive an 18-inch wreath and assorted dried flowers and ribbon with which to decorate it. Please bring wire cutters, scissors and any personal materials (cones, artificial and dried fruits, silk flowers or ribbons) you wish to include in your creation.

Instructor: Robin Taylor Daugherty is a fiber artist with considerable experience teaching weaving, spinning, felting, tapestry-making and basketry throughout Colorado. Her work is widely exhibited.

Fee: \$32 members/\$34 nonmembers (includes \$20 for materials)

Limit: 15

Conservatory Guide Training Starts Soon

Remember the adults you looked up to as a child? Remember your delight when you stumbled upon something new? Remember...to sign up now to become a DBG conservatory tour guide; then pass on your experience and knowledge to a child.

Training will begin September 11 and continue through November 13 with sessions every Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Fill out the registration form in this newsletter and return it with \$25. If you have any questions please call the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20.

Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206

Fees for courses should be paid in advance by charge, check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your payment is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

Enclosed is _____ to cover the registration fees for the following classes:

Name and section of class(es) _____

Name _____

Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Member ID _____
(on top line of newsletter address label)

Address _____

City _____ ZIP code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐

_____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

CALFES

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies

A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a **general** indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switchboard during business hours at 331-4000.

African Violet Society, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society**, 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society**, 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club**, 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society**, 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers**, 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society**, 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International**, 4th Fri.; **Iris Society**, spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club**, 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society**, 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society**, 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society**, 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club**, 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society**, 2nd Sun. of 5 months.

C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1 Aquatic Plant Walks Men's Garden Club Plant & Produce Sale
	2 Night-Blooming Nymphaeas	3	4	5 Watercolor Painting*	6	7	8 More Ikebana*, Diversity at Walter Reed Bot. Garden, Gesneriad Show & Sale
	9 Gesneriad Show & Sale	10	11 Conservatory Guide Training*, Patricia Thorpe	12 September Bird Walk	13 Drawing from Nature*, Free Day (York St.)	14	15 Soil and the Front Range Homeowner, Identification of Fall Wildflowers
	16 Tea Ceremony	17	18 The Fall Garden	19 Intermediate Bird Watching	20 Perennial Favorites	21	22 Great Gardening Style
	23 Overwintering Aquatic Plants	24	25 Denver Allied Artists: Exhibit & Sale	26 Denver Allied Artists: Exhibit & Sale	27 Denver Allied Artists: Exhibit & Sale, Golden Aspens and Their Natural History	28 Denver Allied Artists: Exhibit & Sale	29 Denver Allied Artists: Exhibit & Sale
	30 Denver Allied Artists: Exhibit & Sale						

*First meeting of a class with more than one session



SCIENTIFIC
& CULTURAL
FACILITIES
DISTRICT

Denver Botanic Gardens is grateful for funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District, which have enabled the Gardens to better maintain its facilities, expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.

909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
303-331-4000

Address correction requested

TIME VALUE

September 1990



Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 205
Denver, CO

Pumpkins! Time for Art Contest and Chatfield Festival

Pumpkins as art? Those of you who saw last year's display of carved pumpkins at the Gardens or in the Atrium at United Bank Center know that old Jack o' Lantern has recently had a major face lift. Pumpkins carved have become an exciting autumn art form — while pumpkins unadorned remain a popular golden symbol of harvest.

The Gardens celebrates the pumpkin season again this year with two events that welcome participation by both children and adults, artistic or not.

Chatfield Pumpkin Festival

Saturday, October 13, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Chatfield Arboretum will hold an old-fashioned family Pumpkin Festival. Admission is free, even to nonmembers. Pumpkins have been grown at the arboretum for your picking, for a "donation" that will range from 50 cents to \$5.

Activities for children include a pumpkin painting contest, with prizes sponsored by local businesses, and ghost stories, puppet shows and nature programs. Hiking the many nature trails is encouraged, or you can enjoy a ride on a horse drawn hay wagon. Dried plant materials for flower arrangements, Indian corn, fruit, nuts, herbs, honey and beeswax will be displayed for sale.

For more information call Chatfield Arboretum, 973-3705 or 973-1979.

Pumpkin Art Contest

October 27-31 the Gardens, United Bank of Denver and Pumpkin Limited will sponsor the second annual Pumpkin Art Contest. All entries will be displayed through the weekend at 1005 York Street, so your artistic creation will be enjoyed by hundreds of DBG visitors. Then a selection of the carved pumpkins will be shown in the Atrium at United Bank Center, 17th and Broadway, Monday through Halloween.

Whether you're into whimsy, fright or fine art, you are urged to tap into your creativity and become a part of this event. The contest is divided into two categories, a *decorating* contest — for children 12 and under — and a *carving* contest. Entries are due Saturday morning, October 27, between 9 a.m. and noon. Each person bearing a pumpkin for the contest will be admitted to the Gardens free and will receive a discount coupon from King Soopers for another pumpkin. Cash prizes will be awarded in each category. Television celebrities will be on hand for the judging.

For more information on the contests call 331-4000, Ext. 25 or 64.

Green Thumb



NEWS

Denver Botanic Gardens October 1990 Number 90-10



Inside:

*Bonfils-Stanton
Lecture
page 3*

*African violet
sale
page 3*

*Fall Planting
Tips
page 4*

*Library Lines
page 7*

*Paper making
classes
page 11*

*Jack o'Lantern
gets a face lift
for the Gardens'
second annual
Pumpkin Art
Contest.*

Wildflower Lecture: Colorado Wetlands

David Cooper, a research professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering Ecology at Colorado School of Mines, will present the 1990 Carl Tempel Wildflower Lecture Wednesday, November 7 at 7:30 p.m. in John C. Mitchell II Hall. Dr. Cooper will draw from his many years of scientific research throughout Colorado to present a slide lecture, "The Flora of Colorado's Wetlands."

Dr. Cooper grew up near Boulder and studied at the University of Colo-

rado. His doctoral thesis focused on the vegetation of the central Brooks Range in Alaska. Here in Colorado he is working under a five-year contract with the Colorado Highway Department to monitor the success of the recently created wetlands at Chatfield Arboretum. He is studying the hydrology, vegetation, wildlife use and water chemistry of this area to better understand how a wetland may develop over time.

continued on page 3

DBG Members Save With Greater Denver Coupons

Denver Botanic Gardens has teamed up with Greater Denver '91, a local savings directory, to provide members with an opportunity to contribute to the Gardens and, at the same time, save money on products, services, entertainment and restaurant meals. The 300-page magazine style directory comes with coupons and a membership card good through December 1991. It costs \$30, of which \$8 is a tax deductible donation to DBG.

The Gardens is one of the organizations offering a discount admission coupon in the Greater Denver '91 directory. This gives DBG the opportunity to sell the publication to its members and benefit from the proceeds.

For more information on this valuable offering (an ideal gift for the hard-to-buy-for people on your holiday gift list) see pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter.

Hard work is part of the fun at the Chatfield Pumpkin Festival.

Sometimes it takes teamwork to render a pumpkin into a work of art.



Tributes

In memory of Mrs. Ted Boerstler

Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Snyder

In memory of Kenyon Brown

First Church of Christ Scientist

In memory of Don Gordon

Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Appel

In memory of Phillip T. "Ted" Handwerk

E.H. & Jean Belyeu

Woody & Rosemary Laughlin

Mrs. Iva B. Levi

In memory of Mrs. G.D. Lehrer

O. Ben Haley, Jr.

Painting pumpkins calls for serious "artistic expression."



Gleanings

From "America's Cottage Gardens," by Patricia Thorpe: Gardeners are formed by heredity, "And we all should feel the importance of this. It is possible for us to encourage the next generation of American gardeners. It is rare for someone with no gardening in the family to turn to it. And the children of gardeners are likely to make original and personal gardens because they are not merely absorbing design dictates from books."

From Grower Talks newsletter, June, 1990: A *Chicago Tribune* article reported that gardeners who practice their pastime 45 minutes daily can reduce their risk of heart attack to one-third the chances of sedentary individuals. The study was done at the University of Minnesota.

From Life Magazine, May, 1990: In the Alaskan Tongass National Forest the U.S. Forest Service charges as little as \$2 per 1,000 board feet for

timber that sells for as much as \$600 on the open market. From that one forest the service has lost more than \$350 million in sales since 1980. This year the federal government will subsidize timber cutting on public lands to the tune of \$519 million.

From American Horticulturist, August, 1990: "A real garden where one can enter in and forget the whole world cannot be made in a week or a month or a year. It must be planned for, and waited for and loved into being." — Chinese proverb.

From American Horticulturist, June, 1990: Ann Jovejoy writes (in "Gardening Where We Live"), "America is a big and complex country; rather than seeking to codify a single American school of garden making, we can rejoice in the many American styles, celebrating the emerging strengths and character of each region in turn."



Green Thumb News Number 90-10 October 1990

Published monthly by Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Larry Latta. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in Denver Botanic Gardens. For membership information please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000, Ext. 22.

Deadlines for this newsletter are: September 21 for November, October 22 for December and November 22 for January.

Stories must be typed, double-spaced, preferably on copy paper provided by the editors. Please call 331-4000, Ext. 42, for details.





Floral Designer J. Barry Ferguson Speaks Oct. 9

Tuesday evening, October 9, when the season's chill foretells muted colors and gardens gone dormant, the Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series will light up John C. Mitchell II Hall with vibrant flowers and articulate discourse. The 7 p.m. demonstration is by floral designer J. Barry Ferguson, an extraordinary horticulturist with an international reputation.

A champion of floral beauty indoors and out, Ferguson makes his home in New York, but his creations demand attention at top social functions on both sides of the Atlantic. He designs the displays each year for the East Side House Benefit Winter Antique Show, a New York fundraising party, and has provided flowers for Queen Elizabeth.

For his audience at Denver Botanic Gardens he will create breathtaking arrangements of beautiful flowers in unusual containers. The title of his presentation is "Living with Flowers"; he has also written a book with the same name.

Ferguson is renowned for his ability to create beauty not only with the bounty of imported blossoms but from the meager offerings of a seemingly bare garden. His October appearance at the Gardens should be an inspiration to dedicated floral designers and to all who appreciate the special place that flowers have in our lives.

J. Barry Ferguson shares the joy of "Living with Flowers" Oct. 9.

Botanical Treasures: Nature Prints and Home Furnishings

"Botanical Treasures V," a show and sale of botanical illustrations and home accessories, will be presented Friday through Sunday, November 2 through 4, in John C. Mitchell II Hall. Hours of the exhibit are 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. each day.

Turner Art Gallery and Howard Lorton Galleries are sponsoring this show for the Gardens' benefit. A variety of activities over the three days promises to enlighten, entertain and inspire you to use nature prints and floral designs in your home.

Turner Art Gallery, Colorado's leading exhibitor of botanical illustrations, will offer an extensive array of botanical and other natural history prints. Their framers will attend the show to help you select just the right mat and frame for your art work.

Howard Lorton Galleries will present a fine collection of wall accessories, furniture and appointments to complement your present decor. Both organizations will have professional

staff on hand to answer your questions and guide your search for beautiful items.

Among the activities planned are demonstrations by nature artists, a lecture on the history of botanical illustration, and flower arranging demonstrations.

Don't miss this exciting show and sale and your chance to start or add to your botanical art collection. Remember, too, that this art is a wonderful gift for someone on your list who shares your interest in plants and the natural world.

African Violet Council Sale On Free Day

The fall sale by the Rocky Mountain African Violet Council is in John C. Mitchell II Hall Saturday, October 13, a free day at the Gardens, when the regular gate fee is suspended for all residents of Colorado.

Member societies of the council will have hundreds of African violets for sale. There will also be other plants of the gesneriad family. Hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tickets are available from the education department. They are \$5 each for members, \$8 for nonmembers. Call 331-4000 for information or tickets.

continued from page 1

DBG members may recall his article, "Colorado's Wetlands," in the Autumn/Winter 1988 issue of *The Green Thumb* magazine. An enthusiastic lecturer and field trip leader, Dr. Cooper has also taught for the Colorado Nature Conservancy, in addition to his work with the naturalist-guides at Chatfield arboretum.

The Carl Tempel Wildflower Lecture Series was inaugurated in 1979 to honor Major General Carl W. Tempel of Fitzsimmons Army Medical Center. He was a noted photographer and wildflower enthusiast, and his wife, Ruth Tempel, is a long-time volunteer in the Denver Botanic Gardens gift shop.

Gardening: Fall Planting Tips

Colorado gardeners are discovering that fall is planting time. Many seeds should be sown outdoors this time of year to take advantage of the alternating periods of warm and cold temperatures that winter brings us. Late fall is also an excellent time to plant and transplant some perennials and woody plants.

Seeds

Among the trees whose seeds benefit from vernalization — a period of cold temperature, such as winter outdoors or a refrigerator indoors provides — are ash, maple, walnut, oak and horse chestnut. All conifers should also be seeded now, as well as some shrubs, such as roses and viburnums, and annual larkspurs, California poppies and cornflowers.

You can sow any of these plants in the spot where you want them to grow, but the soil must be prepared with abundant organic matter and the seeds must not be allowed to dry out until they've germinated next spring. So consider whether you can remember where you've planted them. And will you be able to get water to them during the long dry spells we often have in Colorado during the winter?

Perhaps it's better to prepare a special seed bed, located where it will be easy to watch and water. When you sow the seeds, cover them lightly with soil (except the exceedingly fine-seeded poppies) and water them well, then mulch the bed with leaves or straw to hold the moisture in the soil. In the spring gently remove the mulch and, after the seeds have germinated, you can plant them in their permanent positions.

Planting, Transplanting

Weather permitting, you can still plant or transplant perennials, trees and shrubs in your garden through the first half of the month. Their roots are still growing and will continue to develop until the ground approaches the freezing point. Planted early enough in October they will become established before winter closes them down. In fact, peonies and oriental poppies should be installed in late fall, rather than in the spring. And other perennials and woody plants that have been grown in containers or have been tightly balled and burlapped can be planted any time the soil is warm enough to allow the transfer of free moisture.

As in spring, soil preparation before planting is crucial for the long, healthy life of your plants. A loose soil, augmented with lots of organic matter (compost or old, well-rotted manure), will encourage rapid root growth. The soil for perennials should



Sunflowers watch over autumn activities at the Gardens.

be prepared to a depth of 15 to 18 inches, at which time a sprinkling of bone meal should be mixed in.

The hole for trees and shrubs should be dug to the same depth as their root ball. This is contrary to traditional practice, which encouraged a deep "\$10 hole for a \$5 plant." You can still invest in a valuable hole, but it should be wide instead of deep. Recent studies have concluded that planting trees over loosened soil is a major cause of tree loss within their first few years. As the soil settles, so does the tree, eventually sinking below its optimal depth; its roots suffocate for lack of oxygen. As our understanding of roots increases, it has also become evident that the major feeder root growth takes place in the relatively shallow top foot of soil. So deep planting holes are of little use to a tree and are, in fact, dangerous. It is beneficial, though, to prepare the soil around the tree to the depth of your shovel, out

from the trunk three feet or more. Its lateral roots will take advantage of the rich, loosened soil.

Water newly installed plants thoroughly, soaking the soil to well below the depth of the roots. Keeping the soil moist through the winter is also important. A thick mulch will not only cut down on your watering chores but will mitigate large temperature changes, forestall freezing and protect the plants from heaving out of the ground due to repeated freezing and thawing.

Fall planting has many advantages. Plants are still available. And the nurseries, like the hours of your gardening days, are less crowded now than they will be in the spring. Perhaps you'll decide it is too early to put away your spade after all, and get a jump on spring.

Larry Latta, Public Information

A golden symbol of the harvest season ripens in the autumn sun.



Greater **DENVER**'91SM

A Special Denver Botanic Gardens Membership Reward
Save Thousands While Donating



Order by phone:

1-303-368-3945

Or

Clip and mail coupon to:

Greater Denver '91
3033 South Parker Road, #1000
Aurora, Colorado 80014-999

Your Invitation To Save While Donating To



Denver Botanic Gardens

Please include a check for \$30.00 (for each membership) to Greater Denver '91, or charge to your Mastercard or Visa. Your Greater Denver membership will be mailed directly to your address. (Please allow 4 weeks for shipping and handling.)

My MasterCard or Visa Account number is: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Signature: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Memberships Ordered: _____ Total Enclosed or Charged: \$ _____

A Special Denver Botanic Gardens Membership Reward Save Thousands While Donating



Denver Botanic Gardens

As a reward for being a Denver Botanic Gardens member, you are invited to become a Greater Denver '91 member - save thousands of dollars on goods and services while providing additional funds for the Gardens.



Greater
DENVER'91

Greater Denver is an up-scale savings directory and membership card which allow you exceptional savings at over **550** area restaurants and merchants.

SAVE EVERY DAY - By using only 5% of Greater Denver '91, you can save over **\$4,000** annually - a great return on your investment! Simply present your convenient membership card or directory coupon.

Save On Fine Dining:

With your Greater Denver '91 card receive two-for-one entrees or 25% off your bill* at restaurants such as: Tante Louise, Manhattan Cafe, Bibelot, Bennigan's, Footers, Bay Wolf, Philippe's, Chateau Pyrenees, Josephina's, Chili Pepper and more than 150 other metro Denver restaurants!

*2-for-1 and 25% off discounts are good for the initial visit, with a 10% ongoing discount.

Save On Clothing, Jewelry, Home Furnishings & Gifts:

Special discounts from Fashion Bar, Aspen Leaf, Color Tile, Leather Center, Grand Trunk Luggage, Michaels, Stage, So Fro Fabrics, Veldkamps, Wall Units of Colorado, Wicker West, Service Master, Merry Maids and many others!

Save On Travel & Hotels:

Save hundreds on cruises, vacation packages and up to \$175 off the lowest prices on airfare with **NO** black out dates. Plus, 50% off rack rates at over 2,000 hotels (including Hyatt, Hilton, Marriott, Holiday Inn) and special savings on car rentals.

Save On Video, Music & Photos:

50% off film processing and developing at CPI Photo, up to 20% off tapes and CD's at Musicland/Sam Goody's, 3-for-2 videos at Blockbuster video...plus others!

Save On Automotive, Convenience & Pet Services:

Firestone, Napa, Big O' Tires, Packaging Stores, Mail Boxes Etc., Kinko's, Signal Graphics, PetsMart and others!

Save On Dry Cleaning, Laundry & Shoe Repair:

Save up to 25% off all dry cleaning at Colorado Lace and Silver State Cleaners... and 50% at Dardano's and Shoe Biz...plus many others!

Save On Entertainment, Sports and Attractions:

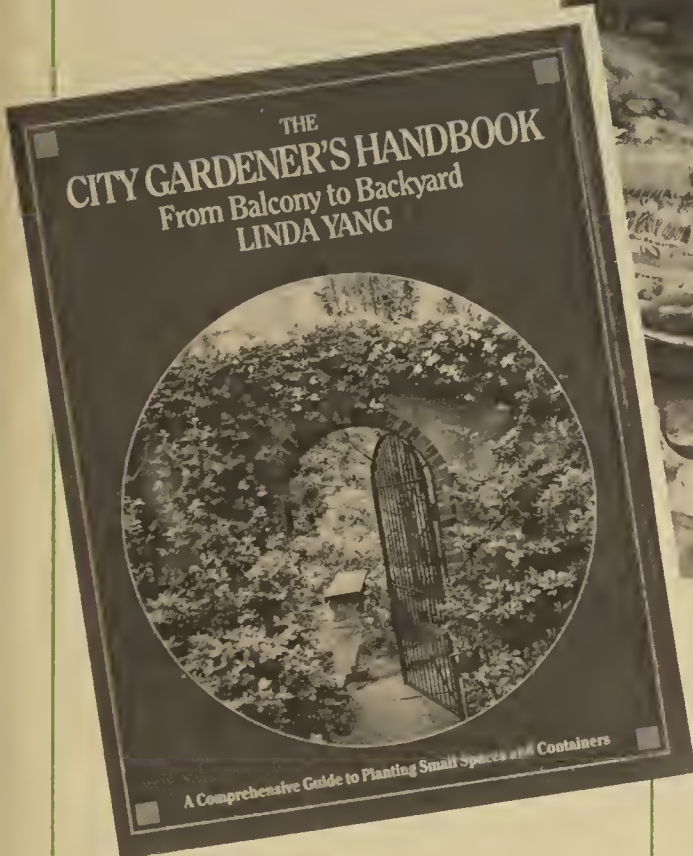
Two-for-one admission offers, special incentives, and coupons for Colorado Symphony Orchestra, Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver Art Museum, Denver Zoo, Colorado History Museum, Comedy Works, Jazz Works, Denver Nuggets....

Save on Deli and Quick Service Food:

La Petite Boulangerie, Wild Oats Markets, Pizza Hut, TCBY, McDonalds, Arby's, Dairy Queen, Domino's and others!

Your purchase of Greater Denver '91 provides additional funds for **Denver Botanic Gardens**. By purchasing Greater Denver now, with this brochure, you're contributing directly to the Gardens; part of the proceeds from each membership sold goes to Denver Botanic Gardens to help fund maintenance, programs and services.

Greater Denver also makes a great gift for family, friends & business associates!

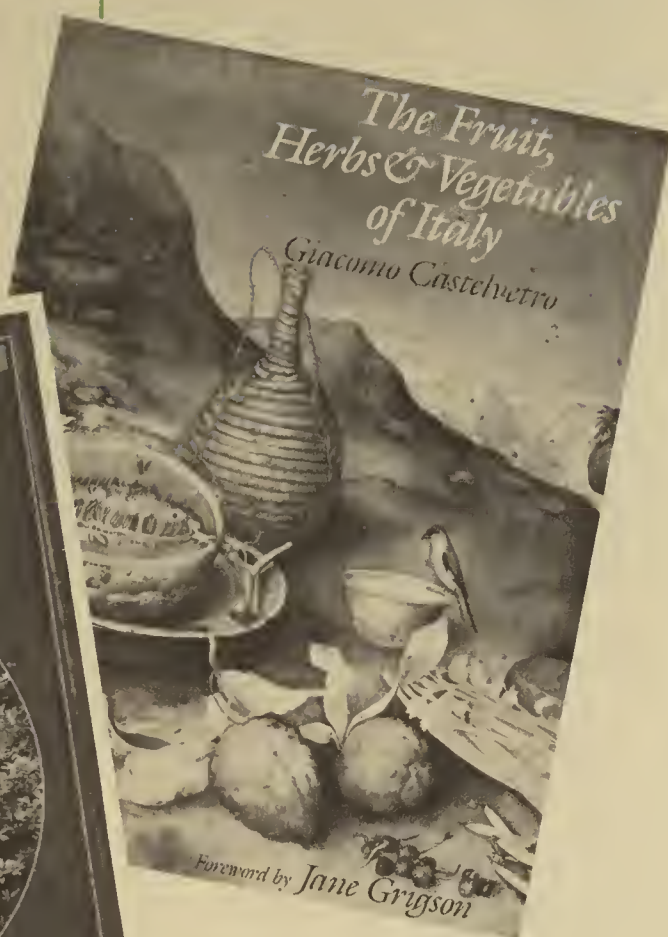


The City Gardener's Handbook from Balcony to Backyard By Linda Yang. Random House, New York. \$26.95. SB 453.Y29 1990.

From front cover to back, it is apparent that thought, research and attention to detail never flagged for a minute while this book was being produced.

Ms. Yang (or her editor) has used an outline technique to note, in small print to its left, the topic of each paragraph. Far from being a distraction, this acts as a quick means of reference. The excellent organization allows the user to turn directly to the needed information, although anyone planning a garden will find it best to start at the beginning. There is so much common sense advice that it's a shame to miss any of it. If you tend to chafe at organization and plans, and your garden shows it, this book is for you. Ms. Yang has been there before you. She keeps you from expensive mistakes and has no objection to creative experimentation.

When information applies to more than one chapter, it is repeated or referred to by specific page number. She lists plants by their popular names and includes their Latin binomials, their sun and soil requirements, how and when to buy and plant them and other pertinent information. Her choices include plants not often seen, and the designs she has chosen show that whether you plant these or old standbys, your garden need not be run-of-the-mill.



The Fruit, Herbs and Vegetables of Italy

By Giacomo Castelvetro, translated by Gillian Riley. Viking, British Museum, Natural History, New York. \$29.95. TX 723.C38 1989

"Appetite is the best sauce," the saying goes. Giacomo Castelvetro (1546-1616) learned to love the delicate flavor of fresh fruits and vegetables while traveling about Europe as an exile with his uncle Ludovico, a literary critic persecuted in Italy for his support of the Protestant religion. Ludovico instructed his nephew in the study of languages and in the careful preparation of vegetables and fruits, on which he lived, although he did not insist that Giacomo follow his vegetarian diet. If Giacomo had a normal teenager's appetite, he must have enjoyed these dishes very much indeed.

He lived for some time in London, mixing with its most prominent society, and was Italian tutor to James VI of Scotland. In later years, however, he found himself in poverty, reliant upon Lucy, Countess of Bedford. To her he dedicated this work, an attempt to encourage the English in healthier eating habits. He advocates gentle handling and proper (but not necessarily brief) cooking. The recipes themselves are in keeping with today's attitudes toward diet. His herb mixture is delicious, and *agresto*, made from hail-damaged grapes, adds an unusual sparkle to vegetable and meat dishes.

In her glossary Ms. Riley explains almost all of the terms Castelvetro uses. She does omit a few: Spinach beets are beets grown for their leaves; arbutus is the strawberry tree, and the azarole is the hawthorne. The grass pea that was eaten by the poor Romans, to their discomfort, is poisonous, Ms. Riley tells us. It is *Lathyrus sativus* L., the Indian pea or green vetch which, plant toxicologist John Merrium Kingsbury says, appears "innocuous" in small quantities. This probably explains how it came to be eaten in the first place.

This is surely one of the most elegant cookbooks ever produced. Replete with color reproductions of still lifes and scenes from the markets and kitchens of Italy and Europe, most of them contemporary with Castelvetro's life, this book of luscious paintings will revive the most dispirited appetite. Feast with your eyes before trying out these historically interesting recipes.

Virginia Stratton

Clear color photographs illustrate gardens across the country. Plantings and materials are identified, and methods of building and installing them are shown. A few gardens in other countries offer different ideas. Most importantly, the garden plans need not be limited to city lots. Owners of acres of land find it convenient to have a small planted and terraced area close to the house for entertaining or general family use. Almost any of the gardens shown could be set within a larger natural site. To round off this excellent work, the author has included a chapter called "Not Quite Eden" which covers pests and pest controls (organic and chemical) as well as dangerous problem plants.

Denver planners and landscape architects are credited by Ms. Yang with the development of xeriscape gardening; this mention is followed by a selection of plants suitable to our climate.

Even if you are not planning a garden, take time to read this book. Aside from all the information packed in it, the beautifully rendered and botanically accurate drawings by Stephen K.M. Tim appear unexpectedly throughout, as charming as wildflowers in a meadow. The columbine is reproduced in gold on the hardcover.

An index and a remarkably complete list of addresses of all kinds of companies which provide services or goods related to gardening are included.

Virginia Stratton is a DBG volunteer.

Cacti for Beginners

Wednesday, Oct. 3

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom C

Discover the basics of growing these prickly wonders in your home. Learn about their physiology, cultural requirements and individual characteristics and receive demonstrations on potting, mixing soil and elementary propagation. Growing cacti under lights and sources — local and mail order — will be covered.

Instructors: All are key members of the Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society. Kay and H.V. Rodman are commercial growers and past chairmen of shows and sales at DBG. Jim Sykes is a highly respected and enthusiastic cactophile who was recently awarded the first Jim Sykes Hobbyist Award by the society.

Fee: \$8 members/\$10 nonmembers

Forcing Bulbs

Saturday, Oct. 6

9:30 to 11 a.m.
Classroom B

The process of encouraging spring-flowering bulbs to bloom by other than naturally occurring conditions is called forcing. Learn this procedure so that you can enjoy an assortment of spring blossoms indoors while it is cold and dreary outside.

You will pot several types of bulbs during class to take home to enjoy during the winter holidays.

Instructor: DBG education director Patricia Pachuta is a horticulturist and experienced teacher.

Fee: \$14 members/\$17 nonmembers (includes \$8 for materials)

Limit: 15

Prairie Gardening

Thursday, Oct. 4

6:30 to 9 p.m.
Chatfield Arboretum
Visitor Center

Prairie landscapes are more than blue grama and buffalo grass. You can add wildflowers to these warm season grasses to complement their natural beauty. In this class you will learn the principles of xeriscaping and get ideas for plants and plans.

Instructor: Horticulturist Rick Brune, a pioneer in prairie gardening and an expert on plants of the plains, was instrumental in the creation of the Laura Smith Porter Plains Garden at DBG.

Fee: \$10 members/\$12 nonmembers

Limit: 15

Beginning Bonsai

(four sessions)

Thursdays,
Oct. 4, 11, 18 & 25

7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Classroom B

This popular introductory course will cover the history and cultural techniques of bonsai — creating dwarf trees. You'll learn styling, training, potting and caring for bonsai.

You will take home a completed new bonsai. All materials are provided.

Instructors: Keith Jeppson, past president of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society, is a hobbyist with 17 years' experience. Harold Sasaki is a commercial grower with 18 years of experience.

Fee: \$54 members/\$60 nonmembers (includes \$22 for materials)

Limit: 16

Winterize Your Rose Garden

Sunday, Oct. 7 Classroom B

1 to 2:30 p.m.

Learn how to prepare your roses for winter. This class will include discussion and instruction as well as a tour (weather permitting) of the rose gardens at DBG.

Instructor: All-American Rose Selection judge Joan Franson is a member of the Denver Rose Society and regularly teaches rose gardening.

Fee: \$6 members/\$7 nonmembers

Orchids You Will Want to Know

(two sessions)

Section I Thursdays,
Oct. 11 & 25

Section II Saturdays,
Oct. 13 & 27

10 a.m. to noon Classroom B

(Please indicate your section on the registration form.)

Orchids are highly specialized members of the plant kingdom and, although many are tropical, they can be grown indoors in Denver.

In the first session you will cover the basic biology of orchids: their natural history, unique physiology and ecology. In the second session you will receive a thorough overview of selections for your home or greenhouse and learn how to mix the soil, grow orchids under lights and solve the problems that arise in our arid climate.

Instructor: Paula Ogilvie is president of the Denver Orchid Society and teaches biology and plant physiology at the University of Denver.

Fee: \$16 members/\$19 nonmembers

Xeriscaping Your Home

(three sessions)

Wednesdays, Oct. 10, 17 & 24

9 a.m. to noon
Chatfield Arboretum
Visitor Center

This class stresses a do-it-yourself approach to the seven fundamentals of xeriscaping. You will learn how to start and complete your own landscape plan within your needs, desires and budget.

You will consider reducing bluegrass areas, increasing ground covers, using dryland plants, developing watering zones and various other alternatives to rocks and gravel.

Instructor: Thomas L. Stephens is a landscape architect with many years' design and teaching experience. He is currently co-authoring "Xeriscape: Common Sense Landscaping."

Fee: \$35 members/\$43 nonmembers

Limit: 12

Perennial Pleasures

(five sessions)

Tuesdays, Oct. 16, 23, 30,
Nov. 6 (skip 13) & 20

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom C

With proper planning and planting perennials can enhance your garden with long-term beauty and reduced maintenance. Learn garden design, soil preparation and cultivation and become acquainted with a multitude of perennials. Plants for special situations, such as shady areas, will also be discussed. You will have ample opportunity to ask questions.

Instructor: Andrew Pierce, assistant director of DBG, is an accomplished grower of perennials and alpine plants.

Fee: \$40 members/\$48 nonmembers

Limit: 18

Carnivorous Plants

Thursday, Oct. 25

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom A

These "monster plants" are nature's contribution to the Halloween spirit. Their unusual dining habits intrigue young and old alike. This class will introduce you to their amazing characteristics and help you grow them successfully. You will meet pitcher plants, Venus flytraps, sundews and bladderworts. You'll also take home a potted plant.

Instructor: Joseph V. Tomocik

Fee: \$11 members/\$13 nonmembers (includes \$3 for plant)

Limit: 30



The Case of the African Violet

Saturday, Nov. 3

9:30 a.m. to noon Classroom B

Learn basic African violet care: lighting, feeding, watering, temperature control, cleaning, soils, pests and propagation. You may also bring a couple of your African violets to this hands-on workshop to learn why they won't grow — or why they have grown too tall.

Bring a clean, sharp knife and, if you wish, a pest-free plant or two from your own collection. The instructor will provide cuttings.

Instructor: Debbie Griffith has been growing African violets for 12 years. She is currently president of the Rocky Mountain African Violet Council and a senior show judge.

Fee: \$14 members/\$16 nonmembers (includes \$4 for materials)

Limit: 20

Conifers: Backbone of the Winter Garden

Thursday, Nov. 8

9 to 11 a.m. Classroom C

Following an introduction to the conifers that grow well in the metropolitan Denver area you will take a walk to study the principal conifers growing in the Wingsong, Rock Alpine and Gates Memorial Gardens. You will gain a good understanding of the landscape value and uses of these evergreens, particularly for the winter garden, and receive a list of the principle conifers available locally.

Instructor: Panayoti Kelaidis, curator of the award-winning DBG Rock Alpine Garden, is an enthusiastic teacher who enjoys sharing the discoveries he's made over years of gardening in Colorado.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 nonmembers

Limit: 20

Native Colorado Conifers and Their Natural Histories

(two sessions)

Monday, Nov. 12, 6 to 8:30 p.m.
and

Sunday, Nov. 18, 2 to 4 p.m.

Morrison Center

Can you distinguish a one-seeded juniper from a pinyon pine? By studying cones, needles and bark you will learn to correctly identify all of Colorado's native junipers, pines, spruces and firs. You'll also discuss cross sections, fresh branches and annual rings and learn about the plants, animals, climate and soils associated with our evergreens.

Bring materials to take notes and, if you have one, a hand lens.

Instructors: Field trip leader and naturalist Tina Jones studied alpine ecosystems at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Karen Trout is a gardener at DBG with a scholarly interest in native plants and in Southwestern ethnobotany.

Fee: \$18 members/\$22 nonmembers

Attracting and Feeding Backyard Birds

(two sessions)

Mondays, Dec. 3 & 10

6 to 8:30 p.m. Morrison Center

It's never too late to start feeding birds in your yard. Learn to avoid less desirable species, such as starlings, and to encourage chickadees, nuthatches, goldfinches, siskins and others.

The preferred foods of specific species, proper placement of feeders and houses, and sources of good, cheap food will be covered. You will also learn which plants you can add to your landscape to attract even more four-toed friends.

Instructor: Tina Jones

Fee: \$20 members/\$24 nonmembers

December and Those Winter Chores

Tuesday, Dec. 4 Classroom C
7 to 9 p.m.

December, busy as it is with preparations for the holidays, is also a month that requires a little time in the garden.

In this class you will learn about plants that need mulching in December and January, what to use as a mulch, how to avoid salt damage to your lawn and storm damage to your woody plants and how to do minor winter pruning.

Instructor: Andrew Pierce is assistant director of DBG. As a horticulturist he is an accomplished grower of perennials and alpine plants.

Fee: \$8 members/\$10 nonmembers

Limit: 18

Toys for Every Gardener

Saturday, Dec. 1

9 to 11 a.m. Morrison Center

A well stocked garden "shed," be it your garage, basement or closet, is one that allows you to enjoy your gardening work. Just in time for the season of list-making, hint-dropping and gift-giving this class will give you ideas about all sorts of handy items no gardener should do without. From trowels to heating mats and seedling flats, you will start the upcoming season with the necessities — the gardening "toys" — that will bring success to your gardening ventures.

Instructor: An enthusiastic organic gardener for 15 years and "Dr. Green" at DBG, Judy Elliott has taught organic gardening and infected many others with her horticultural knowledge and her enthusiasm.

Fee: \$8 members/\$10 nonmembers

Limit: 30

October Bird Walk

Wednesday, Oct. 10

8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Chatfield Arboretum
Visitor Center

Their migratory routes bring many kinds of birds through the woods and wetlands of the arboretum. Take this opportunity to observe herons, cormorants and other October visitors.

Bring binoculars, field guides, hiking boots and clothing appropriate for the weather. Picnic tables are available for lunch.

Instructor: Ann Bonnell

Fee: \$4 members/\$5 nonmembers

Limit: 12

African violets by the hundreds stock the Fall African Violet Sale.

Decorating Grapevine Wreaths

Saturday, Nov. 10

12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

DBG Morrison Center

Decorate your own unique grapevine wreath with natural materials. You will receive an 18-inch wreath and assorted dried flowers and ribbon with which to decorate it. Please bring wire cutters, scissors and any personal materials (cones, artificial and dried fruits, silk flowers or ribbons) you wish to include in your creation.

Instructor: Robin Taylor Daugherty is a fiber artist with considerable experience teaching weaving, spinning, felting, tapestry-making and basketry throughout Colorado. Her work is widely exhibited.

Fee: \$32 members/\$34 nonmembers (includes \$20 for materials)

Limit: 15

Beeswax Candle Making

Section I Thursday, Oct. 11

Section II Thursday, Oct. 25

7 to 9 p.m.

Chatfield Arboretum

Visitor Center

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Make your own pair of elegant, rolled beeswax candles for the holidays. All materials will be provided.

Instructor: An enthusiastic teacher, Bette A. Webb is a member of the International Guild of Candle Artisans.

Fee: \$10 members/\$14 nonmembers (includes \$2 for materials)

Limit: 12

Harvest Style Flower Arranging

Thursday, Nov. 8

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Classroom B

Create a fall arrangement of harvest materials to complement your Thanksgiving table setting.

Bring materials that you have gathered to personalize your arrangement. Also bring lunch, containers and flower snips and a small bucket to hold water and flowers. A piece of floral foam or a needlepoint flower holder and wire cutters will also be useful.

Instructor: An experienced floral designer and teacher, Julia Dobbins has studied arranging in the United States and England.

Fee: \$31 members/\$35 nonmembers (includes \$15 for materials)

Limit: 12

This grapevine wreath is decorated with a living tillandsia bromeliad for the holidays.



Autumn Flower Arranging

Monday, Oct. 22

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Classroom C

Create natural style floral arrangements full of the warm, inviting colors of fall. You are encouraged to begin now to gather and dry grasses and other materials to include in your arrangements.

You may cut some plants at the Gardens during the class (depending on the weather) and others will be purchased and provided. Please bring your own containers and flower snips, as well as a container (small bucket) for holding water and fresh flowers. A piece of floral foam or needle-point flower holder and wire cutters or pruning shears will be useful. Also, bring a lunch to class.

Instructor: An experienced floral designer and teacher, Julia Dobbins has studied arranging in both the United States and England.

Fee: \$31 members/\$35 nonmembers (includes \$15 for flowers)

Limit: 12

Making Gingerbread Houses

(three sessions)

Saturday, Nov. 3

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.,

Wednesday, Nov. 7

7 to 9 p.m. and

Saturday, Nov. 10

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Classroom B

You will make two small gingerbread houses for holiday decoration — one to take home, and one to contribute to the holiday trimmings for DBG's traditional "Teddy Bear Teas."

You must attend all three sessions. Materials will be provided: The instructor will prepare the gingerbread beforehand and will bring to class examples of houses in various stages of completion.

Instructor: Kate Rogers is a professional baker with much hands-on gingerbread experience.

Fee: \$34 members/\$41 nonmembers (includes \$16 for materials)

Limit: 20

Papermaking Workshop

Saturday, Oct. 6

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
DBG Morrison Center

The art of making paper by hand — one of the oldest, most beautiful crafts — is currently enjoying a worldwide renaissance. This workshop will introduce you to the history and techniques of papermaking and give you an opportunity to make some of your own.

Please bring lunch, rubber gloves, apron, a plastic bowl or found objects for casting, cardboard sheets and a garbage bag to carry your work home.

Instructor: Peggy Johnston studied art education at the University of Wyoming and has extensive teaching experience.

Fee: \$28 members/\$34 nonmembers (Additional \$15 for materials is payable to the instructor.)

Limit: 12

Embossed Cards of Handmade Paper

Saturday, Nov. 3

9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
DBG Morrison Center

Create beautiful white-on-white embossed cards for yourself or for gifts. You will begin by making your own white paper from 100 percent rag pulp. Then you will design and prepare a low-relief mold into which you will press your fresh sheets of handmade paper. You'll leave the class with one-of-a-kind cards.

Come prepared with a simple natural pattern to fit a 5½ by 4¼ inch card. Also bring lunch, rubber gloves, apron, a plastic bowl and a large plastic bag to carry your work home.

Instructor: Peggy Johnston

Fee: \$33.50 members/\$38.50 nonmembers (includes \$7.50 for materials)

Limit: 10

Watercolor Painting

(five sessions)

Section III
(for returning students)
Wednesdays,
Oct. 17, 24, 31,
Nov. 7 & 14
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Section IV Wednesdays,
Oct. 17, 24, 31,
Nov. 7 & 14
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Classroom B

(Please indicate your section on the registration form.)

Explore the sparkle and delicacy of watercolor painting while you enjoy the natural setting of Denver Botanic Gardens.

This course will cover the basic materials and techniques of watercolors, with emphasis on freedom of personal expression. Come prepared with supplies. You'll need a one-inch flat brush, #10 round brush, watercolor paper, tissues, container for water, plastic palette and cake or tube watercolors.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky teaches art history, watercolor painting and oil painting at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design.

Fee: \$60 members/\$72 nonmembers

Limit: 15

Class locations:

Classrooms A, B and C are at 1005 York Street, Denver.

The DBG Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center is at 2320 East 11th Avenue, Denver.

Chatfield Arboretum is at 9201 South Carr Street, Littleton (southwest of Wadsworth Boulevard and C-470).

Autumnal Pleasures: Drawing the Season

(six sessions)

Tuesdays, Oct. 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27 & Dec. 4

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Classroom B, except Nov. 6 when the class will meet in the Morrison Center

As the seasons change, sharpen your drawing skills in this class that stresses accurate botanical illustration. You will have your choice of media — pencil, watercolor or colored pencil — and will receive individual

instruction drawing seasonal fruits, flowers and berries from the Gardens.

Please bring your own painting and drawing materials; paper will be provided.

Instructor: Angela Overy received her National Diploma of Design from London University, England. Rob Proctor is an artist and writer whose "Antique Flowers: Perennials" was published in September.

Fee: \$54 members/\$64 nonmembers

Limit: 20

Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206

Fees for courses should be paid in advance by charge, check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your payment is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

Enclosed is _____ to cover the registration fees for the following classes:

Name and section of class(es) _____

Name _____

Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Member ID _____
(on top line of newsletter address label)

Address _____

City _____ ZIP code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐

_____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

C A L E N D A R S

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies

A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a **general** indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switch-board during business hours at 331-4000.

African Violet Society, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society**, 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society**, 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club**, 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society**, 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers**, 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society**, 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International**, 4th Fri.; **Iris Society**, spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club**, 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society**, 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society**, 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society**, 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club**, 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society**, 2nd Sun. of 5 months.

**First meeting of a class with more than one session*

Winterize Your Rose Garden

14

21

28

Carved Pumpkin Contest



Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
 909 York Street
 Denver, Colorado 80206
 303-331-4000

Address correction requested

TIME VALUE
 October 1990



1

8

15

22

Autumn Flower Arranging

29

2

Bulbs in the Garden

9

J. Barry Ferguson

16

Perennial Pleasures*

23

30

Autumnal Pleasures*

3

Cacti for Beginners

10

October Bird Walk, Xeriscaping Your Home*

17

Watercolor Painting*

24

31

4

Beginning Bonsai*, Prairie Gardening

11

Orchids You Will Want to Know*, Beeswax Candle Making

18

25

Carnivorous Plants, Beeswax Candle Making

5

12

19

26

6

Forcing Bulbs, Papermaking Workshop

13

Orchids You Will Want to Know*, African Violet Sale, Pumpkin Festival (Chat.)

20

27

Carved Pumpkin Contest

Non Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit No. 205
 Denver, CO



Chatfield Arboretum Wetlands Trail Dedicated to Dr. Moras Shubert

The Moras Shubert Wetlands Trail at Chatfield Arboretum was dedicated September 20.

It honors Dr. Moras Shubert, a founding trustee of the Gardens whose vision and tireless efforts have been instrumental in the acquisition of the arboretum and its subsequent rapid development as a nature education center and horticultural demonstration site. Dr. Shubert served as the first secretary of the executive committee of the Denver Botanic Gardens Board of Trustees until his appointment in 1987 to life trusteeship. He remains a member of the Gardens' education committee, editorial committee and Chatfield Arboretum committee.

The evening dedication was attended by nearly 200 current and past Denver Botanic Gardens trustees, staff members and volunteers and by friends of Dr. and Mrs. (Erne) Shubert. A large contingent of celebrants — friends and staff alike — had studied botany under his tutelage at Denver University, where he taught for 40 years.

The Shubert Wetlands Trail, begun in 1988, ties together the four ponds in the wetlands area of the arboretum, making them accessible for studying both the wetlands flora and the many birds and animals that frequent the area. It is now an important link in the guided and unguided tour programs.

Photos pages 8 & 9

Gardening: Ornamental Grasses Thrive in Colorado

Ornamental grasses now rank among the favorite plants in my Colorado garden. I decided to grow large ornamental grasses because I wanted some quick growing texture and bulk in the landscape to temporarily hide an unsightly view. They have been very easy to grow. Their colors, shapes, and textures add a new and interesting look to my garden for at least eight months of the year — May through December.

The increasing availability of ornamental grasses and the display areas at Denver Botanic Gardens make it easy to become excited about trying these new, dramatic, low maintenance plants in Colorado landscapes. Even

continued on page 4

Inside:

*Orchid Show
and Sale
page 2*

*Tour English
Gardens
page 2*

*Historic
Homes Tour
page 3*

*Blossoms
of Light
page 5*

*Botanical
Treasures V
brings you
beautiful
nature prints
Nov. 2-4.*

NEWS

Denver Botanic Gardens
November 1990
Number 90-11



Volunteers Find Great New & Unusual Gifts for Your Holiday Shopping

See Pages 6 & 7

Orchid Society Show Comes "Back to the Garden"

The Denver Orchid Society will hold its annual American Orchid Society sanctioned show and sale "Back to the Garden" Saturday and Sunday, November 10 and 11, at Denver Botanic Gardens. Hundreds of orchids, from the showy corsage-type cattleyas to dainty masdevallias will be on display. Many kinds of orchids will be for sale, and information on growing orchids in Colorado homes will be available.

The show and sale are open during regular Gardens hours, 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Set-up and judging, open only to participants, is on Thursday and Friday, November 8 and 9. For more information call chairman Marion Allen, 674-0379.



On the itinerary for the DBG England tour in 1991 is the Royal Botanical Garden at Kew — here, the palm house.

Vanda is but one of dozens of orchid genera you will see at the November 10, 11 show by the Denver Orchid Society.

Tributes

In honor of Bea Taplin's Presidency of the Board of Trustees

Richard H. Bosworth

In memory of Mrs. Peggy Boerstler

Mr. and Mrs. Barkley Clanahan
Rosemary H. VanVleet

In memory of Mrs. Dale Brown

Mrs. Thomas Cunningham

In memory of Mrs. Zoe Falleiros

Mr. and Mrs. George A. Krikos
Anne W. Tennant

In memory of Philip T. Handwerk

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jackson and Family

In memory of Mott Miller

Mattie E. Miller

In memory of Pota Pantelakos

Oasis Landscapes

In memory of Ethel Raleigh

Allyne E. Lawless

In memory of Miss Kathleen Robinson

Mr. and Mrs. Donald C. Campbell
Mr. and Mrs. Barkley Clanahan

In memory of The Reverend William T. Warren

Sears and Joan Merrick

Tour England's Gardens in May

April showers bring forth May flowers, so the English say. You are invited to visit this wonderful garden country May 10 to 25, 1991.

Plans are well under way for members to tour not only gardens but castles, towns, cathedrals and some of England's most beautiful scenery. Our English contact, Mr. Tony Lord, will help lead the tour, along with Barbara Baldwin, chairman of the DBG travel committee, and Andrew Pierce, assistant director of the Gardens. They have found some unusual, beautiful gardens for us to delight in.

This exciting tour will take you to three regions. After flying into London on British Airways we will move directly down to Cirencester to visit the Cotswolds, historic Bath and the magnificent cathedral city of Salisbury. Famous gardens in this area include Hidcote Manor, Stourhead (of Masterpiece Theatre fame), Kiftsgate, Iford Manor (currently one of England's top gardens) and Barnsley House where we will be entertained by Rosemary Verey. This well known personality wrote "The American Woman's Garden" and is about to publish a companion volume for the male side of the subject.

From the beauty of the Cotswolds we will travel to West Sussex via Winchester to stay in scenic Crowborough at the Winston Manor. Yes, it was frequented by the Churchill family. Here we visit the country location of Kew Gardens at Wakehurst Place, nearby Sheffield Park and Bodiam Castle. Another great garden to visit is Polesden Lacey with 50 acres of formal plantings.

We will also partake of England's famous pubs. After bangers and mash and bitters in the pubs, we'll take an outing to Brighton returning to Crowborough by way of Arundel Castle. We will leave this lovely area to enjoy the marvels of the superb Royal Horticultural Society's gardens at Wisley on our way to London. It will be rhododendron time.

Our last sojourn will include various locations around and in London as well as some shopping time. We will stay at Flemings, a fine hotel near London's most attractive activities. We'll go by boat to the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, a few miles upstream from Chelsea, where we will visit the famous Flower Show on the private opening day, and also have a chance to see the unique Chelsea Physic Garden. Windsor, Savill Gardens and Hampton Court will round out the tour, but those who wish to go to Sissinghurst will have that option on their free day. If convenient, Winston



Churchill's home, Chartwell will be included on this extra trip.

At the first location, Stratton House, Cirencester, and at Crowborough, all breakfasts and dinners will be included. Several of the lunches and the May 24 farewell dinner will also be included in the cost.

May is a magnificent time to visit England. This tour combines many of its wonderful features even though the accent is on the famous gardens the country offers. At the time of writing, final cost of the tour had not been established. For current information call Betsy Everhart (320-1070) at Cherry Creek Travel Service, 200 Fillmore, Suite 100, Denver, 80206, or Andrew Pierce, at the Gardens (331-4000).

It has been several years since the Garden's members toured England. This 1991 venture will concentrate on a few well-chosen areas. Join us.

Green Thumb News

Number 90-11 November 1990

Published monthly by Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Larry Latta. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in Denver Botanic Gardens. For information please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000, Ext. 22.

November 22 is the deadline for the January 1991 newsletter.

Stories must be typed, double-spaced. Please call 331-4000, Ext. 42, for details.



Accredited by the
American Association
of Museums

Holidays Around the World *

December 8 - 31
9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Daily
(Closed December 25)

Open Evenings until 8 p.m. *

December 17 - 23

December 26 - 30



Teddy Bear Teas

Saturdays

December 8

Seatings at 1, 3 & 5 p.m.

December 15

Seatings at 1 & 3 p.m.

Tickets: Children \$8

Adults \$15

High Teas

Sundays

December 9 & 16

Seatings at 2 & 4 p.m.

Tickets: \$15

Holiday Music *

7 p.m.

Gore Range Brass Quintet

Tuesdays, December 11 & 18

Colorado Folk Arts Council Dancers

Thursday, December 13

Colorado Children's Chorale

Thursday, December 20

* gate admission only

Denver Botanic Gardens

1005 York Street

331-4000

With generous support from

Aardvarks to Zebras
Angle Tree Company
Bank Western

Celestial Seasonings
Colorado Folk Arts Council

Garden Club of Denver
May D&F
The Talking Teddy

Lobby and outdoor displays were designed by Evergreen Specialty Company.

Denver Botanic Gardens is the grateful recipient also of funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District.

Blossoms of Light 1990

Denver Botanic Gardens

Holidays Around the World

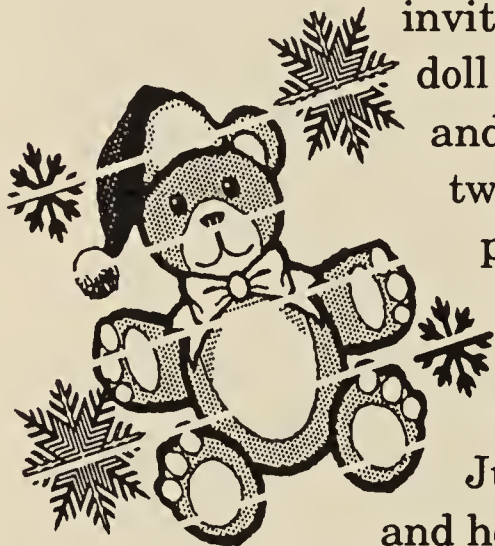
Softly twinkling lights will guide you through the gate and into the Gardens' winter wonderland. Indoors the tropical paradise of Boettcher Memorial Conservatory will warm your heart. In the Lobby Court festive holiday decorations will cheer your spirit. Special displays will take you around the world, through the traditional holiday decorations of Mexico, Lithuania, Denmark, Sweden, Germany and Czechoslovakia.

Evenings of Holiday Music

The holiday lights and the decorations from around the world are especially magical at night. Seasonal music by the Gore Range Brass Quintet or the Colorado Children's Chorale, or dancing by the Colorado Folk Arts Council will make the evenings of December 11, 13, 18 and 20 even more memorable.

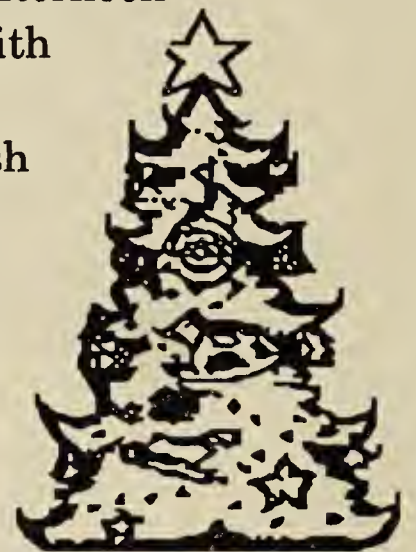
Teddy Bear Teas

Children (suggested ages: 3-10) are invited to bring a doll or teddy bear and an adult or two to these ever-popular modified high teas to be entertained by Judie Pankratz and her marionettes, and the Montview Puppeteers.



High Teas

This is the perfect way to spend a holiday afternoon at the Gardens with Friends. Enjoy traditional English high tea treats, accompanied by seasonal melodies of harpist Pamela Eldridge.



For further information on the Teas, call 698-2166, weekdays, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Reservation Form for High Teas and Teddy Bear Teas

Only by mail, with prepayment. No refunds or exchanges.

Mail to: Marty Nemecek, 3101 E. Long Road, Littleton, Co 80121

Please indicate 1st and 2nd choice of time and date by using the numerals 1 and 2 in the brackets below:

High Teas	Sunday Dec. 9	2 p.m. [] 4 p.m. []	Sunday Dec. 16	2 p.m. [] 4 p.m. []	_____ people at \$15 each = \$_____
Teddy Bear Teas	Saturday Dec. 8	1 p.m. [] 3 p.m. [] 5 p.m. []	Saturday Dec. 15	1 p.m. [] 3 p.m. []	_____ children at \$8 each = \$_____ _____ adults at \$15 each = \$_____ Total \$_____

Please enclose a check payable to Denver Botanic Gardens, and a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Name _____

Address _____

ZIP _____

Phone _____

Four Seasons Members Tour Colorado's Fall Foliage

A beautiful autumn Saturday surrounded 12 DBG Four Seasons Individual members with color as they toured Colorado's high country to view the changing fall foliage September 22. Arranged by the development office as a benefit of the upper level Four Seasons membership, the tour was an all-inclusive package with transportation, lunch and the knowledgeable guidance of DBG trustee D. Deane Hall and Rock/Alpine Garden curator Panayoti Kelaidis.

The group traveled to Vail where it ascended to Eagle's Nest on the Lionshead gondola. Then it went by van to Piney River Ranch at the edge of the Gore Range Eagle's Nest Wilderness Area. Lunch was served before a magnificent panorama of the Gore Range, lightly dusted with new snow, in the distance. Returning through Vail Village, the Four Seasons members took a walking tour to see the many summer flowers for which the town is famous and to visit the Betty Ford Alpine Gardens, named in honor of former first lady Betty Ford for her many contributions to the community. They were met by Helen Fritch, president of Vail Alpine Gardens, the non-profit organization which is developing the high altitude rock garden.

The fall foliage tour promises to become an annual event for upper level members, and other events are being planned for the coming year. For information call the membership office, 331-4000.

Free Days November 16 & 17

To allow unrestricted entry to the annual Holiday Sale, both Friday and Saturday, November 16 and 17, will be free days at the Gardens. Special hours these days will be 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Colorado Wetlands: Free Tempel Lecture November 7

Wednesday evening, November 7, at 7:30, David Cooper will give the annual Tempel Wildflower Lecture in John C. Mitchell II Hall. His topic is "The Flora of Colorado Wetlands." Dr. Cooper is a research professor at Colorado School of Mines and has been monitoring the wetlands at Chatfield Arboretum for the Colorado Highway Department.

The lecture is free — a memorial to Major General Carl W. Tempel by his wife, Ruth Tempel, who is a longtime friend of the Gardens — and seating is unreserved. For information call 331-4000, Ext. 20.

DBG Supports Bromwell Elementary Home Tour

Denver Botanic Gardens supports Bromwell Elementary School in its 13th Annual Holiday House Tour and Boutique Saturday, December 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets for this event are \$8 each and may be purchased at Denver Botanic Gardens, Bromwell School or any of the featured homes on the day of the tour. The purchase of a ticket for the Bromwell House Tour and Boutique includes a coupon for \$1 off admission to Denver Botanic Gardens during our Blossoms of Light celebration.

The walking tour will feature a tour of five homes in the historic Denver Country Club neighborhood, as well as a boutique home showing the works of over 40 local artists. The boutique will be open Friday, December 7, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 8. Holiday crafts and evergreen wreaths will be featured at the boutique.

Underwritten by Perry and Co., Realtors, the home tour will benefit the many programs offered at Bromwell School.

Members Herald the Season December 7

Friday evening, December 7, you are invited to preview the Blossoms of Light decorations at the Gardens. "Herald the Season" is a members-only party with music and other entertainment certain to instill your heart with the holiday spirit.

Each membership entitles two adults and members' children or grandchildren under 16 to join in this annual celebration. Entertainment includes singing, face painting and storytelling, and there will be delicious holiday refreshments for all. Festivities begin at 6:30 p.m.

Reservations are required. You will be receiving a special notice with a reservation form in the mail. Cost of the evening is \$3 per adult (up to two per membership) — children are free. Reservations are limited and must be received by the membership coordinator by Friday, November 23. Each reservation will be confirmed by a postcard that will be your entry ticket. An advance order form is included in this issue for your convenience. For more information call 331-4000, Ext. 22.

John Brookes' Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Sold Out

The Bonfils-Stanton Lecture Series appearance Tuesday, November 13, by English landscape designer John Brookes is sold out, as were the lectures in September and October.

Tickets remain, however, for the 1991 lectures in the current series. Tuesday, January 8, David Tarrant will speak on "A New Look at Container Gardening," and Tuesday, February 12, Dr. J. C. Raulston will discuss "Exciting, New Plants for the Landscape."

For ticket information call the education department, 331-4000, Ext. 20.

Reservation Form for Herald the Season Friday, December 7

Enclosed is a check for _____ \$3 for 1 adult or _____ \$6 for 2 adults.
Number of children under 16 attending is _____.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Member ID _____

(on top line of newsletter address label)

Reservations are limited and must be received by November 23.

Mail to Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York Street, Denver, CO 80206

though there are dozens of ornamental grasses available I have chosen only four of my favorites to discuss.

Erianthus ravennae is a good substitute for pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*) which is not hardy in our climate. At twelve feet, it is our tallest grass. Plenty of space is needed to show this fine, graceful specimen. If ravenna grass is planted too close together and used as a screen rather than a specimen plant, some of the aesthetic value is lost because the nicely arching leaves need room to show off. Its leaves are a blue-gray color during the growing season and light tan after frost. The large pampas-like plumes are silver-gray and dense; they look dramatic against the sky.

Miscanthus sinensis 'Zebrinus' is known as zebra grass because it has horizontal yellowish bands approximately every four inches along most of its grass blades. This grass grows

They hold up for years in a dried bouquet if they're picked when they're young.

six feet tall, eight feet when the plumes finish poking out of their stalks. Zebra grass is also a background grass but it does not need quite as much space to show off as ravenna grass. It can be planted tight to form a screen and still remain attractive. This striped grass has the largest flowers of the *Miscanthus sinensis* species. They look good in the winter garden until about February and they hold up for years in a dried bouquet if they're picked when they're young.

An interesting and unusual grass is *Molinia caerulea* var. *altissima* 'Skracer'. It stands three feet tall but



the thin straight flower stalks shoot about four feet above the grass with airy flower heads at the very top. This grass looks best when planted as one large specimen clump or several large clumps arranged with plenty of space between each clump.

Blue avena or blue oat grass, *Helictotrichon sempervirens*, makes an excellent border grass for large areas, but the best thing about this grass is that it does not need to be divided to retain its color. Avena grass and blue fescue have nearly the same blue color but blue fescue must be divided every several years to keep it bright. Avena is a skinny-leaved grass about the size and shape of a medium-sized yucca. Its flowers stand above the grass but they are not too impressive, being thin and scraggly. I grow this grass for its porcupine shape and its blue spruce color.

All of the above grasses will be longtime residents in my garden because they provide new and interesting shapes and textures, they add lots of winter interest to the landscape, and they are low maintenance. The

only special care they need to keep them in top form is to cut them back every spring in March, just when the new growth is beginning to show.

The plants receive irregular watering and just enough attention to keep weeds from surrounding them. All the grasses mentioned are too large for the weeds to smother the plants. They are all located in full sun; large grasses planted in shade need staking, but when grown in sun they stand on their own showing their natural grace.

My grasses were planted in mostly clay soil after they were divided. It was not amended, but I have the feel-

...new and interesting shapes and textures.

ing that these plants would grow larger more quickly if the soil had been improved, and if they had been outfitted with a drip irrigation system.

All these grasses are clump-forming. I avoid rhizomatous grasses because I don't want to worry about them spreading to the rest of the garden. These large grasses just get fuller and more stately each year. The ravenna grass occasionally casts seedlings out into surrounding gardens but they are easily pulled, transplanted or potted.

Grasses are not difficult to transplant. It can be done in the fall, but spring transplanting seems to give better results. If the grass is a large clump and has been growing in the same spot for several years it will take plenty of muscle and an ax (a hatchet is not big enough) to move and divide it. Whenever a grass is divided it seems to take it two seasons to look good again.

Blue avena, *Helictotrichon sempervirens*, is a neat, symmetrical grass with silver-blue foliage.

Calamagrostis arundinacea adds landscape interest even in winter.





As more ornamental grasses are presented in display gardens in the United States and around Denver their popularity among gardeners is increasing. The Helen Fowler Library at DBG has many references on this subject, and the displays around the Gardens create a lot of enthusiasm and interest. There are several mail order grass nurseries. Although lists of sources can be found in many books about his subject, Bluemel Nurseries, 2740 Green Lane, Baldwin, Maryland, 21023, seems to be the leader in the field. They have an extensive grass list in their catalog. Locally, Birdsall and Company, 1540 South Broadway, (722-2535), may have the grass you want.

Grass combinations have lots of flexibility. They can be used in rock gardens, in perennial borders, and to add interest to huge, open areas. They can be massed or used as specimen plants. I encourage Front Range gardeners to use them in their landscapes because they're so versatile. The artistic, colorful combinations you can create with grasses are limitless.

Sandy Snyder is a landscape contractor, avid rock gardener — both at home and at DBG — and champion of interesting plants that demand little care.

Blossoms of Light Depicts “Holidays Around the World”

December 8, 1990, marks the official opening of “Holidays Around the World,” as this year’s Blossoms of Light is themed. The Colorado Folk Arts Council will decorate evergreen trees in John C. Mitchell II Hall in the traditional holiday styles of six nations: Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Germany, Lithuania, Mexico and Sweden. Evergreen Specialty Company has designed displays for the outdoor gardens and the lobby court. Both areas will feature thousands of tiny lights and decorations made primarily of natural materials.

Activities of the season will begin with the annual members’ preview party, “Herald the Season,” on Friday, December 7. There will be refreshments and entertainment for all ages.

Last year’s Teddy Bear Teas were so popular that another seating has been added to the schedule. Saturday, December 8, seatings will be at 1, 3 and 5 p.m. and Saturday, December 15, at 1 and 3 p.m. Children 3 to 10 years of age are welcome to bring their favorite teddy bear or doll and an adult or two. The children will receive special favors and be entertained by Judie Pankratz and her marionettes on December 8 and by the Montview Puppeteers on December 15. What better way to enjoy the holidays than through the eyes of a child? Reservations, at \$8 for children and \$15 for adults, are necessary.

The ever-popular High Teas will be held on Sundays, December 9 and 16, at 2 and 4 p.m. Harpist Pamela Eldridge will provide background music. The traditional high tea menu of Devon cream, scones, pastries and tea sandwiches will be served. High Tea is a delightful way to spend a Sunday afternoon with family members, friends or business associates. These teas sell out fast, so make your reservations, \$15 per person, early and be sure you can attend this annual tradi-

tion at the Gardens.

The Evenings of Music have expanded from two to four nights. This year’s program has something for everybody. The Gore Range Brass Quintet entertains on Tuesdays, December 11 and 18. The Colorado Folk Arts Council performs traditional dances from many nations on Thursday, December 13. The final performance of the season is by the Colorado Children’s Chorale on Thursday, December 20. All performances are from 7 to 9 p.m.

Blossoms of Light Needs Volunteers

Blossoms of Light, Denver Botanic Gardens’ annual holiday celebration, may be closer than you think, and all activities planned for this event are in need of volunteers. If you enjoy adding a bit of extra effort to make the holidays special for others, and want to have some fun with your friends at the Gardens, you may want to make Blossoms of Light your event.

Teddy Bear Teas will be on Saturday, December 8, at 1, 3 and 5 p.m. and Saturday, December 15, at 1 and 3 p.m. High Teas will be held Sundays, December 9 and 16, at 2 and 4 p.m. Ten people are needed to assist with each tea.

Evenings of Music are Tuesdays, December 11 and 18, and Thursdays, December 13 and 20, from 7 to 9 p.m. Five volunteers will host and serve refreshments for each of these evenings.

Share the Gardens: Give a Membership

You can share the Gardens with friends or family every day, all year long, by giving them their own memberships in DBG. There are several categories of membership to choose from.

A holiday membership form is included on this page for your use. The recipients of your gift memberships will receive cards informing them of your thoughtfulness.

Grasses enhance large raised planters — here, Sorghastrum nutans and Schizachyrium scoparium with gaillardias.

Holiday Gift Membership Form

Donor’s Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____
Phone _____

Recipient’s Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____
Phone _____

Date to mail gift card _____

Gift card to be signed _____

- \$35 Family/Dual (two adults)
- \$25 Individual
- \$25 Senior Couple (both over 65, same address)
- \$18 Senior (65 and over)
- \$18 Full-time Student

☐ Cash ☐ Check
☐ VISA ☐ MC

Exp. _____

Signature _____

Recipients receive a card informing them of your gift, plus a free plant that may be picked up at the Gardens. Mail to Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York Street, Denver, CO 80206. For additional details call 331-4000, Ext. 22.

Holiday Sale

Volunteers Find Great New Gifts For Your Holiday Shopping

Volunteers and staff have assembled an inventory of great new gifts and holiday decorations — many available nowhere else in Denver — for this year's annual Holiday Sale. Every department of the sale will feature unusual items to choose from.

Friday and Saturday, November 16 and 17, are the dates for the 1990 sale. The gate will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There will be no admission charge to the Gardens the days of the sale, giving members an opportunity to bring nonmember friends to see the late autumn sights, as well as support this major fund-raising event.

The annual Holiday Sale is justly famous for the homemade, secret recipe, flavored vinegars and culinary mixes prepared by the Denver Botanic Gardens Guild. The basil, tarragon and mixed herb vinegars for sale are reason enough to attend. Since 1964 shoppers have come to the Gardens just to buy these vinegars, for their own pantries or as gifts. The herbed mixes — for dips, dressings and other flavored dishes — are relatively recent creations, but already have an annual following that creates long lines at the sales tables in John C. Mitchell II Hall.

Another flavorful product at the sale is honey, processed the old-fashioned way by the Chatfield Arboretum committee. Collected from hives at the arboretum, located across the highway from Chatfield Reservoir, this honey is rightfully known as "the best honey by a dam site." Not subjected to the high temperatures used by most modern canners, the honey is

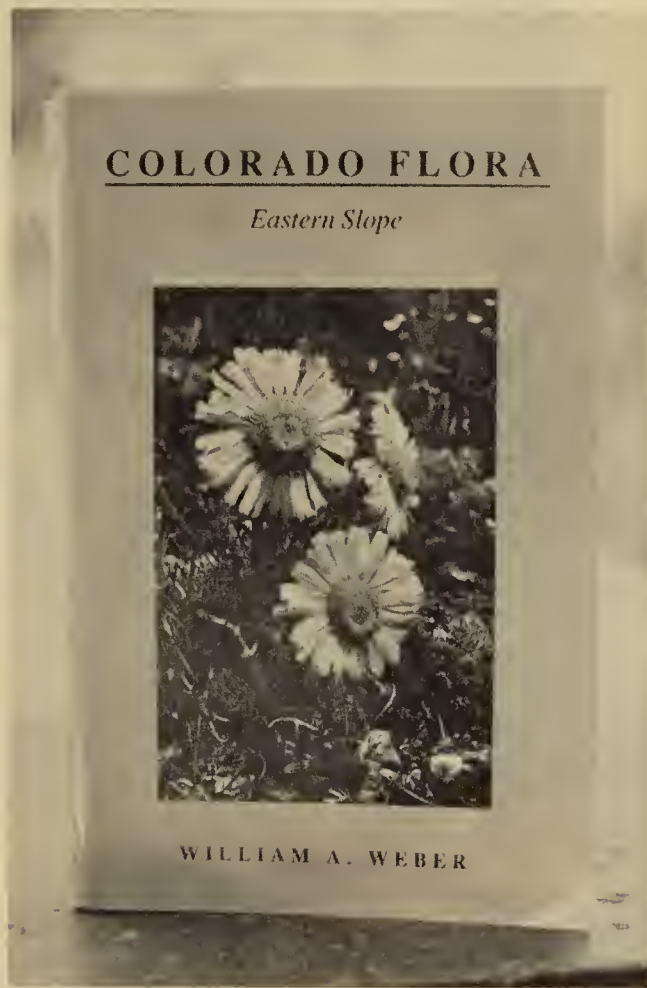
spun from its combs and packed by volunteers using the traditional methods that farmers in the area have used for generations. With its distinctive DBG labeling, it makes a personalized, healthful, delicious gift.

Nothing, however, says "old-fashioned holidays" quite like handcrafted wreaths and ornaments made of natural materials. These beautiful items have been constructed by volunteers working throughout the year and will be available at the sale. Fragrant handmade potpourri sachets of many sizes, shapes and materials are also gifts which speak lovingly of yesteryear. If you feel especially creative, the materials for making wreaths, ornaments and potpourri items may be purchased unassembled.

Gardeners — and the children of gardeners — love books. The Holiday Sale will have many titles new this year. Patricia Thorpe's "America's Cottage Gardens" offers a wonderful view of private gardens across the nation, and makes a fascinatingly beautiful gift, as well as a very good read. Rob Proctor's "Antique Flowers: Perennials" was published late this year. All readers of the Denver Post, familiar with Proctor's superb garden writing, will want to own this beautiful volume. You'll also want to peruse the children's books on gardening and other nature subjects. Besides a complete collection of Tasha Tudor's volumes, instructional books on the environment and many natural subjects are available for all age groups.

The huge Holiday Sale overflows into the Lobby Court from both the Gift Shop and John C. Mitchell II Hall. The only way to appreciate its scope and the joy it can lend to your holiday shopping is to visit. So mark the 16th and 17th of November on your calendar, tell your friends, then come support the Gardens and the volunteers who have assembled the many beautiful items that await you. It will be holiday shopping that gets you in a holiday mood.





Left:
An unusual wreath of natural materials, with lotus pod in center, is an attractive welcome for door or gate.
Right:
"Colorado Flora: Eastern Slope" by William Weber, completes his authoritative census of Colorado plants.



Left:
"America's Cottage Gardens" is a beautiful, fascinating gift book for gardeners available at the Holiday Sale.
Right:
This group of elves is only a small part of the new items brought to you for the Holiday Sale.

Chatfield Arboretum Wetlands Trail Dedicated

Dr. and Mrs. Shubert (rt.) were congratulated at the dedication by many of his former Denver University students — here, Marlene (Mrs. Donald) Wilson and her husband.



Arboretum volunteer Olin Webb, and trustees Deane Hall and Mrs. Theodore (Mary) Washburne discuss the arboretum's rapid success.



Current manager of Denver parks and recreation Carolyn Etter was joined by former manager Pat Galavan, during whose term the city leased the arboretum site for DBG.

Newell Grant, trustee and chairman of the Chatfield Arboretum water task force, reminisced for the large group attending the ceremony.



One of the evening's celebrants was trustee Ellen Waterman, chairman of the DBG education and public programs committee.





The occasion was a bright milestone in Chatfield's history for Mrs. (Nancy) and trustee Mr. John C. Mitchell II, who was president of the DBG board of trustees when the arboretum was founded in 1975.



Mrs. Moras (Erne) Shubert cut the ribbon.

Dr. Wayne Christian has led the arboretum staff as assistant director since 1987.



Life trustee Dr. Moras and Mrs. Shubert were the honored guests.



Trustee and former board president Edward T. Connors and his daughter Hope helped celebrate the Shubert trail dedication.



Class locations:

Classrooms A, B and C are at 1005 York Street, Denver.

The DBG Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center is at 2320 East 11th Avenue, Denver.

Chatfield Arboretum is at 9201 South Carr Street, Littleton (southwest of Wadsworth Boulevard and C-470).

The Case of the African Violet

Saturday, Nov. 3

9:30 a.m. to noon Classroom B

Learn basic African violet care: lighting, feeding, watering, temperature control, cleaning, soils, pests and propagation. You may also bring a couple of your African violets to this hands-on workshop to learn why they won't grow — or why they have grown too tall.

Bring a clean, sharp knife and, if you wish, a pest-free plant or two from your own collection. The instructor will provide cuttings.

Instructor: Debbie Griffith has been growing African violets for 12 years. She is currently president of the Rocky Mountain African Violet Council and a senior show judge.

Fee: \$14 members/\$16 nonmembers (includes \$4 for materials)

Limit: 20

Toys for Every Gardener

Saturday, Dec. 1

9 to 11 a.m. Morrison Center

A well stocked garden "shed," be it your garage, basement or closet, is one that allows you to enjoy your gardening work. Just in time for the season of list-making, hint-dropping and gift-giving this class will give you ideas about all sorts of handy items no gardener should do without. From trowels to heating mats and seedling flats, you will start the upcoming season with the necessities — the gardening "toys" — that will bring success to your gardening ventures.

Instructor: An enthusiastic organic gardener for 15 years and "Dr. Green" at DBG, Judy Elliott has taught organic gardening and infected many others with her horticultural knowledge and her enthusiasm.

Fee: \$8 members/\$10 nonmembers

Limit: 30



Conifers: Backbone of the Winter Garden

Thursday, Nov. 8

9 to 11 a.m. Classroom C

Following an introduction to the conifers that grow well in the metropolitan Denver area you will take a walk to study the principal conifers growing in the Wingsong, Rock Alpine and Gates Memorial Gardens. You will gain a good understanding of the landscape value and uses of these evergreens, particularly for the winter garden, and receive a list of the principle conifers available locally.

Instructor: Panayoti Kelaidis, curator of the award-winning DBG Rock Alpine Garden, is an enthusiastic teacher who enjoys sharing the discoveries he's made over years of gardening in Colorado.

Fee: \$8 members/\$9 nonmembers

Limit: 20

Native Colorado Conifers and Their Natural Histories

(two sessions)

Monday, Nov. 12, 6 to 8:30 p.m.
and

Sunday, Nov. 18, 2 to 4 p.m.

Morrison Center

Can you distinguish a one-seeded juniper from a pinyon pine? By studying cones, needles and bark you will learn to correctly identify all of Colorado's native junipers, pines, spruces and firs. You'll also discuss cross sections, fresh branches and annual rings and learn about the plants, ani-

mals, climate and soils associated with our evergreens.

Bring materials to take notes and, if you have one, a hand lens.

Instructors: Field trip leader and naturalist Tina Jones studied alpine ecosystems at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Karen Trout is a gardener at DBG with a scholarly interest in native plants and in Southwestern ethnobotany.

Fee: \$18 members/\$22 nonmembers

December and Those Winter Chores

Tuesday, Dec. 4 Classroom C
7 to 9 p.m.

December, busy as it is with preparations for the holidays, is also a month that requires a little time in the garden.

In this class you will learn about plants that need mulching in December and January, what to use as a mulch, how to avoid salt damage to your lawn and storm damage to your woody plants and how to do minor winter pruning.

Instructor: Andrew Pierce is assistant director of DBG. As a horticulturist he is an accomplished grower of perennials and alpine plants.

Fee: \$8 members/\$10 nonmembers

Limit: 18

Attracting and Feeding Backyard Birds

(two sessions)

Mondays, Dec. 3 & 10

6 to 8:30 p.m. Morrison Center

It's never too late to start feeding birds in your yard. Learn to avoid less desirable species, such as starlings, and to encourage chickadees, nut-hatches, goldfinches, siskins and others.

The preferred foods of specific species, proper placement of feeders and houses, and sources of good, cheap food will be covered. You will also learn which plants you can add to your landscape to attract even more four-toed friends.

Instructor: Tina Jones

Fee: \$20 members/\$24 nonmembers

Harvest Style Flower Arranging

Thursday, Nov. 8

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Classroom B

Create a fall arrangement of harvest materials to complement your Thanksgiving table setting.

Bring materials that you have gathered to personalize your arrangement. Also bring lunch, containers and flower snips and a small bucket to hold water and flowers. A piece of floral foam or a needlepoint flower holder and wire cutters will also be useful.

Instructor: An experienced floral designer and teacher, Julia Dobbins has studied arranging in the United States and England.

Fee: \$31 members/\$35 nonmembers (includes \$15 for materials)

Limit: 12

Making Gingerbread Houses

(three sessions)

Saturday, Nov. 3

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.,

Wednesday, Nov. 7

7 to 9 p.m. and

Saturday, Nov. 10

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Classroom B

You will make two small gingerbread houses for holiday decoration — one to take home, and one to contribute to the holiday trimmings for DBG's traditional "Teddy Bear Teas."

You must attend all three sessions. Materials will be provided: The instructor will prepare the gingerbread beforehand and will bring to class examples of houses in various stages of completion.

Instructor: Kate Rogers is a professional baker with much hands-on gingerbread experience.

Fee: \$34 members/\$41 nonmembers (includes \$16 for materials)

Limit: 20

Decorating Grapevine Wreaths

Saturday, Nov. 10

12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

DBG Morrison Center

Decorate your own unique grapevine wreath with natural materials. You will receive an 18-inch wreath and assorted dried flowers and ribbon with which to decorate it. Please bring wire

cutters, scissors and any personal materials (cones, artificial and dried fruits, silk flowers or ribbons) you wish to include in your creation.

Instructor: Robin Taylor Daugherty is a fiber artist with considerable experience teaching weaving, spinning, felting, tapestry-making and basketry throughout Colorado. Her work is widely exhibited.

Fee: \$32 members/\$34 nonmembers (includes \$20 for materials)

Limit: 15

Embossed Cards of Handmade Paper

Saturday, Nov. 3

9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

DBG Morrison Center

Create beautiful white-on-white embossed cards for yourself or for gifts. You will begin by making your own white paper from 100 percent rag pulp. Then you will design and prepare a low-relief mold into which you will press your fresh sheets of handmade paper. You'll leave the class with one-of-a-kind cards.

Come prepared with a simple natural pattern to fit a 5½ by 4¼ inch card. Also bring lunch, rubber gloves, apron, a plastic bowl and a large plastic bag to carry your work home.

Instructor: Peggy Johnston

Fee: \$33.50 members/\$38.50 nonmembers (includes \$7.50 for materials)

Limit: 10

Facing page: Winter reveals the stability that conifers and other evergreens lend to the landscape.

Denver Botanic Gardens 909 York Street Denver, Colorado 80206

Fees for courses should be paid in advance by charge, check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your payment is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

Enclosed is _____ to cover the registration fees for the following classes:

Name and section of class(es) _____

Name _____

Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Member ID _____
(on top line of newsletter address label)

Address _____

City _____ ZIP code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐

_____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

CALENDARNOV

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies
*A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a **general** indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switch-board during business hours at 331-4000.*

***African Violet Society**, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society**, 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society**, 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club**, 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society**, 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers**, 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society**, 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International**, 4th Fri.; **Iris Society**, spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club**, 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society**, 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society**, 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society**, 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club**, 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society**, 2nd Sun. of 5 months.*

C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3
	<i>*First meeting of a class with more than one session</i>					Botanical Treasures	Botanical Treasures, African Violet, Embossed Cards, Gingerbread Houses*
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Botanical Treasures			Carl Tempel Lecture	Harvest Style Flower Arranging, Conifers of the Winter Garden		Orchid Show, Decorating Grapevine Wreaths
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Orchid Show	Native Colorado Conifers	Bonfils-Stanton Lecture			Free Day, Gift Shop Sale	Free Day, Gift Shop Sale
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
					Thanksgiving Day: Gardens Open		
	25	26	27	28	29	30	



Denver Botanic Gardens is grateful for funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District, which have enabled the Gardens to better maintain its facilities, expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
 909 York Street
 Denver, Colorado 80206
 303-331-4000

Address correction requested

TIME VALUE
November 1990



Non Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit No. 205
 Denver, CO



NEWS

Denver Botanic Gardens
December 1990
Number 90-12

Calendar Blossoms of Light

December 7	"Herald the Season" (members only)
December 8-31	"Holidays Around the World"
December 8, 15	Teddy Bear Teas
December 9, 16	High Teas
December 11, 18	Gore Range Brass Quintet
December 13	Dances from Around the World
December 20	Colorado Children's Chorale



*Thousands of
tiny lights
twinkle
against the
dark winter
night sky
during
Blossoms of
Light.*

DBG Celebrates "Holidays Around the World" in December

"Holidays Around the World," the subject of this year's Blossoms of Light, is sure to delight everyone who sees it.

The festivities begin Saturday, December 8, and run through Monday, December 31. The Gardens will be open during the evenings until 8 p.m. December 17-23 and 26-30. (DBG is closed Christmas Day.)

You will enter the fantasy of the season through an arch of sparkling lights and evergreen garlands. The outside gardens along York Street will twinkle with thousands of tiny lights. Decorations made from natural materials, depicting the four seasons, will adorn 10-foot pine trees along the Linden Allé. Giant, brightly colored flowers will be silhouetted against the dark of night. As you stroll from Linden

Allé into the Lobby, see tiny reindeer nestled among the evergreens and poinsettias.

A 14-foot tree decorated in traditional American fashion by members of the Garden Club of Denver will grace the Lobby. The Lobby pool display will portray the beauty of winter in the Colorado Rockies. The Colorado Folk Arts Council will bring "Holidays Around the World" into John C. Mitchell Hall with traditional holiday decorations from Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Germany, Lithuania, Mexico and Sweden.

"Herald the Season," the annual members' party that officially opens Blossoms of Light, will be Thursday evening, December 7. Check the "Herald the Season" flyer you received in the mail for additional information.

In past years the Teddy Bear Teas have been so popular we have added another seating to the schedule. Saturday, December 8, seatings will be at 1, 3 and 5 p.m. and on Saturday, December 15, at 1 and 3 p.m. Children 3 to 10 years old are encouraged to bring their favorite teddy bear or doll and an adult or two. Children will receive special favors and be entertained by Judy Pankrantz and her marionettes on December 8 or by the Montview Puppeteers on December 15. What better way to enjoy the holidays than through the eyes of a child? Reservations for Teddy Bear Teas are \$8 for children and \$15 for adults.

The ever-popular High Teas will be held Sundays, December 9 and 16, at 2 and 4 p.m. Harpist Pamela Eldridge

continued on page 3

Inside:

*Fort Lewis
College
honors
George Kelly
page 2*

*CPC moves
page 3*

*Gardening
page 4*

*Library
Lines
page 5*

*Classes
pages 6-11*

*School of
Botanic
Illustration
page 11*

Fort Lewis Awards First Honorary Degree to George Kelly

Fort Lewis College, in Durango, Colorado, conferred its first ever honorary degree October 26 to George Kelly. Kelly, who has lived in nearby McElmo Canyon in southwest Colorado for 25 years, was the founding horticulturist of Denver Botanic Gardens. He served as the Gardens' first administrator in the late 1950s.

Ninety-six years old, Kelly has dedicated his life to teaching others about botany and horticulture. He has particularly championed the use of native plants to landscape gardens in Colorado's high, dry continental climate. The author of several books on horticulture, his 1958 classic, *Rocky Mountain Horticulture*, is still considered by many Colorado gardeners to be the bible of their art. While living in the Denver area he wrote regular newspaper columns and hosted radio shows on gardening and was the first editor of the Gardens' Green Thumb Magazine (now Mountain, Plain and Garden). He continues to publish a monthly newsletter from his home near Cortez, Colorado, and corresponds with gardeners from all over the country.

Of his many previous prestigious awards, the most important was his 1986 recognition by the American Association of Nurserymen as a "friend and conscience of the nursery industry." His baccalaureate from Fort Lewis acknowledges his long career as a horticultural and botanical researcher, his writings and his lifelong efforts to educate others.

Tributes

In memory of Mrs. Pat C. Ball

Anne and Marshall Diggs
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Moore

In memory of Lillian Chisholm

Bess Hawver
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Herbert
Elizabeth Pixley
Lidanne and Bill Sandberg
Lloyd and Betty Steinmann

In memory of Mrs. Eugene (Marie) Dines

Horace and Joan Phelps
Jane Silverstein Ries

In memory of Philip T. Handwerk

Robert and Deborah Weiner

Angela Overy, a favorite of DBG art students, is one of the instructors for the Denver Botanic Gardens School of Botanic Illustration. (See announcement, page 11.)



Gleanings

From Nature magazine, June, 1989: A report widely noted, but worth repeating, was of an analytical study in the Peruvian Amazon. It determined that the native trees in a one-hectare (2.5 acre) rainforest site, left in natural condition and managed on a sustained basis, have a net product value (foods, latex and timber) of \$6,330. Clearcut and planted for "modern" timber production its value is \$3,184. As grazing land — the fate of much of the tropical rainforest — its product value drops to \$2,960. The natural forest's pharmaceutical value was not figured in.

From Arbor Day magazine, September/October, 1990: Some Native Americans had this colorful explanation of the changing autumn leaves: When heavenly hunters slew the Great Bear, its blood colored the autumn forest red. When they rendered

its fat, it spattered out of the kettle, turning leaves yellow.

From Garden Design magazine, Autumn, 1990: A California company, Master Design Series, is issuing instructional films on landscape design. The films are meant as tools for environmental designers. The initial movie in the series is a one-hour documentary, *The Landscape Architecture of Roberto Burle Marx*, on the influential designer of magnificent tropical parks and other spaces in South America. Information: Master Design Series, 200 Crescent Road, San Anselmo, CA 94960.

From The Rose Window, newsletter of the Denver Rose Society, October, 1990: Bill Nelson writes, "Maintaining a healthy plant throughout the growing season is...the best winter protection you can provide."

Free Day For Colorado Residents During 'Blossoms'

Thursday, December 13, has been set as a free day at the Gardens for all residents of Colorado, a good opportunity for you, as a member, to bring a nonmember friend to see the Blossoms of Light and the "Holidays Around the World" decorations in the lobby court and in John C. Mitchell II Hall.

If the friend is particularly close and especially pleased with the "Gardens experience" (Be sure to visit the conservatory while you're here!) you also might put your friend on your holiday shopping list under the heading "Gift Memberships in Denver Botanic Gardens." Yes?

Green Thumb News Number 90-12 December 1990

Published monthly by Denver Botanic Gardens, 909 York Street, Denver, Colorado 80206, and edited by Larry Latta. Subscription to this newsletter is a benefit of membership in Denver Botanic Gardens. For information please write the membership department at the above address or call 331-4000.

December 21 is the deadline for the February 1991 newsletter.

Stories must be typed, double-spaced. Please call 331-4000 for details.



Accredited by the
American Association
of Museums

CPC Moves to Missouri Botanical Garden

January 1, 1991, the Center for Plant Conservation (CPC) will move its headquarters from Arnold Arboretum (Harvard University) to become a division of the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis. The move is expected to increase the CPC's capability due to the Missouri institution's achievement and worldwide reputation in research, field operation and plant data management.

The CPC was created in 1984 to develop and maintain the first nationwide program that studies all endangered plants native to the United States and ensure their preservation, using existing institutions to perform the research and conservation. Denver Botanic Gardens is one of the 20 regional conservator botanic gardens which has been studying and maintaining this National Collection of Endangered Plants.

Dr. Peter Raven, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden, observes of the CPC's upcoming move, "For the first time it may be within our grasp to prevent any further extinction of native flora within the United States. The combined efforts and strength of the (Missouri Botanical) Garden and the CPC will make a significant impact in protecting and re-introducing endangered plants back to the landscape."

Donald Falk, CPC director, adds, "The survival of species in their natural ecological and evolutionary state is ultimately the test of any conservation program. We want to do whatever we can to help these irreplaceable species continue along their evolutionary paths."

More than two-thirds of all endangered native plants are close relatives of economically important plants. "The global diversity of plants is of enormous importance to humankind," says Raven. This diversity "is the key to the survival of agriculture — and thus civilization — to support 10 billion people in the next century."

The CPC relocation will create the nation's largest center for plant conservation and research. Donald Falk will continue as its administrator, and the CPC will retain its board of trustees separate from that of the botanic garden.

The Center for Plant Conservation is funded by private donations, corporate and foundation grants, federal grants and contracts, and service fees. One focus of its efforts is to develop sponsorship funds for species of the National Collection and for support of the work done at the conservator gardens, including Denver Botanic Gardens.



See the holidays through a child's eyes. Teddy Bear Teas are a warm DBG tradition for children (and adults).

"The Romantic Garden" Symposium February 23

Fashionable, fragrant and luxuriant — romantic garden style is gaining new recognition among contemporary gardeners. Even the smallest spaces can be transformed by colorful and abundant plantings to achieve a "sweet disorder." Secret sheltered retreats, exuberant cottage gardens, and the color schemes of Claude Monet and Louise Beebe Wilder, are part of romantic style.

Organized by the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, "The Romantic Garden" arrives at Denver Botanic Gardens after a tour that included New York City and Chicago. The symposium addresses the essence of the romantic garden — its history, philosophy, plants and color schemes — as a style element in both contemporary design and historic restoration. The one-day program is designed for landscape architects and designers, amateur and professional gardeners, and anyone interested in garden restoration.

Watch for the complete schedule and registration information in the January *Green Thumb News*.

continued from page 1

will provide background music. The traditional high tea menu will offer Devon cream, scones, pasties and tea sandwiches. High Tea is a delightful way to spend a Sunday afternoon with family members, friends or business associates. These teas sell out fast, so make your reservations soon (\$15 per person) for this Gardens tradition.

For further information on Teddy Bear Teas and High Teas, please call 698-2166 weekdays, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. To make reservations, send your payment to Marty Nemecek, 3101 E. Long Road, Littleton, CO 80121.

This year Blossoms of Light presents four evenings of family holiday entertainment. Mark your calendar for Tuesdays, December 11 and 18, and Thursdays, December 13 and 20, from 7 to 9 p.m. The Gore Range Brass Quintet plays December 11 and 18. Their program will consist of holiday, classical and contemporary music. December 13, the Colorado Folk Arts Council will entertain you with traditional dances from eight countries. The final program, December 20, promises to be a family delight, with the Colorado Children's Chorale performing.

Reminder: DBG Closed Christmas and New Year Days

Denver Botanic Gardens will be closed both Christmas and New Year Day. These are the only holidays of the year when the Gardens does not open.

Gardening: Give the Gift That Keeps on Living

A living plant is a special gift. It betokens growth in love and friendship, a healthy future after illness, continuation of life beyond grief. It may also share a wish for the joy of holiday spirit. How fortunate that so many of our holidays lie within the somber months of winter, nature's pre-springtime pall, when a blooming plant is a welcome harbinger of greener seasons to come.

Some gift plants can easily be grown to become permanent remembrances of their givers; others present more challenge. The following are some of the more common flowering gift plants and some suggestions for their care.

Chrysanthemums: Once these versatile plants were selected only for au-

Are they "hardy"? Yes, most of them will endure the cold temperatures and other rigors of Colorado winters, but their natural season of bloom is usually in very late October, November or even December. This means that frost will probably cut down their blossoms while still in the bud state and seldom, if ever, will they reward you with a replay of their original potted splendor.

If you happen to be a dedicated gardener, you may find it feasible to take up the challenge. When you receive a chrysanthemum in fall or winter, allow it to finish blooming; then cut the stems back to within a few inches of soil level and set the plant in a cool, bright place. At first water it only often enough to keep it alive. As its natural growing season progresses,

Cyclamens: While in bloom, this delicate looking native of the Middle East thrives only under cool, bright and moist conditions. During the summer and fall it prefers a completely dry dormancy during which its corm, or "bulb," can be stored unpotted in any convenient out-of-the-way place.

Repot this corm, right-side-up, in mid-winter and coax it back into active growth in a cool, sunny window (perhaps in a closed off, vacant bedroom). Given care, the plant, though reputed to be quite difficult, can grow larger and more floriferous each succeeding year if excessive heat during its growth season and excessive water during its dormant season can be avoided.

Calceolarias: Pocketbook plants, as these are called, never fail to give pleasure as gift plants. If you are the recipient of one of these touchy, charming plants, enjoy it all the more for the brevity of your pleasure. As an annual, it will soon die and must be thrown away after it fades.

Amaryllis: No discussion of plants for giving would be complete without touching upon these dramatic tropical bulbs. If you give one, present it before it has bloomed — part of the pleasure of growing an amaryllis is the anticipation, watching the long inflorescence rise from the center of the leaves.

If you receive one, the proper care needed to bring it into flower year after year is relatively simple. After it has bloomed, continue watering and fertilizing the plant in a sunny spot until fall; at this time gradually water less frequently until you stop altogether. The plant will stop growing, gradually lose its leaves and eventually go dormant, a condition in which you may store it in any cool, convenient, frost-free place. After three or four months, repot the bulb into a rich, organic soil. Begin watering and fertilizing and place it in a sunny location where it can repeat its cycle.

A brief word about spring bulbs: Tulips, crocus and narcissus make lovely gift plants in late winter, awakening in their recipient the excitement of spring during a time of year when it is most welcome. They should be grown as any sun-loving houseplant until their foliage dies down naturally. Then, after the last of the heavy spring frosts, plant them outdoors in their proper locations, where they can be enjoyed year after year.

Larry Latta (This article was originally printed in the December 1985 Green Thumb News.)

House plants are especially welcome gifts when the winter sun casts long shadows across the winter landscape.



tumnal decoration; now they are sold the year around to grace any occasion. Inexpensive and available in any color except blue, mums are always a suitable gift.

Unfortunately most pot mums produced for coffee tables make poor "houseplants," and are even less suited for growing in our climate. Their ancestry is far different from the cushion mums you may grow successfully in your perennial border and, bred solely for their magnificent flowers, little research has gone into ensuring their reliability outdoors.

increase watering frequency and fertilize it regularly. Sometime between late April and June, root two- to three-inch cuttings, discarding the original plant. Plant the rooted cuttings, three to a six-inch pot, pinch out the top inch of stem to encourage more branches and grow them vigorously until they bloom. Without sophisticated chemical and environmental controls, the date of propagation will control their height, and genetics will determine the time of bloom.

Any grower willing to accept the chore of growing potted chrysanthemum plants from scratch, however, should consider the hundreds of varieties available through mail order, many far more interesting and beautiful than the ones commonly offered in flower shops and supermarkets. They can be had for just a few dollars per rooted cutting. This opens up the enticing prospect of growing your very own, entirely different plant for holiday giving.

Give a Gift that Spans the Seasons.

Your
stamp
helps the
Gardens
grow.

Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206-3799

Gift Membership
Process Immediately



Gift Memberships
Denver Botanic Gardens

Name _____

Address _____
City _____

Type of Membership

Full-time Student Member \$18

Senior Member (over 65 yrs.) **\$18**

Name _____

Address _____
City _____

Type of Membership

Individual \$25

Senior Couple (over 65 yrs.) **\$25**

Name _____

Address _____
City _____

Type of Membership

Family/Dual \$35
(Includes children/grandchildren under 18)
Contributing \$50
(Plus 2 guests each visit)

Donor _____ Mem. # _____

Address _____ Phone:(Daytime) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Visa/MC

☐ Please send cards to me.

☐ Please send cards to recipient by (date) _____

and sign my name: _____

Acct # _____

Exp. _____

Signature

Library Adds Videotapes to Collection

Recently added videotapes in the Helen Fowler Library collection are listed below. Members may check these out at no charge.

The ABC's of Landscape Pruning.
The Art of Landscaping: Design, with Howard Garrett.
The Art of Landscaping: Shopping and Planting, with Howard Garrett.
Bonsai: The Art of Training Dwarf Potted Trees.
Bugs.
Creating the Romantic Garden: The Pleasures of Cottage Gardening, with Ryan Gainey.
Deathtrap.
Desert Giant: The World of the Saguaro Cactus.
Disabled Museum Visitors: Part of Your General Public.
Edible Wild Plants, with Jim Meuninck and Jim Duke.

The National Trust Book of the English Garden.

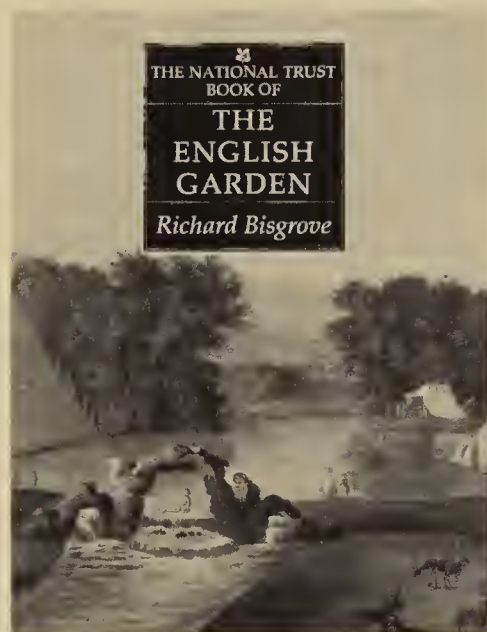
By Richard Bisgrove.
 Viking, the Penguin Group, London and Viking Penguin, New York. \$29.95.
 SB 466 .G8 B777Na 1990

In choosing Richard Bisgrove to write this book, the National Trust brought credit to itself and pleasure to the reading public. A penetrating understanding of garden history arising from a scholar's love of research enables Mr. Bisgrove to cover an immense amount of material in just under 300 pages. His book is like a well-planned garden — a central axis, a pleasing mix, amusing follies — and he keeps to the theme. He doesn't waste a word, and he doesn't become tedious.

From the Egyptian gardens of 1500 B.C. and the great parks, or *paira-daeza*, of Assyrian nobles to present time, people have wanted to put their mark on the land they inhabit. That mark was formed by culture as well as by geographic and climatic conditions. Therefore, Mr. Bisgrove calls attention to political philosophies, social problems and architectural advances that affect the development of gardens. The earliest gardens belonged to the wealthy: royalty, nobility, and monastic orders. These gardens consisted of orchards and vines, roses and lilies, and fish ponds.

Nearly every feature now associated with gardens has its origin in Medieval times. How these attributes developed, how one and then another became fashionable, and finally how they contributed to the development of two very different schools of garden

An Introduction to Home Landscape Design: A Sense of Place.
Introduction to Landscape Design.
The Kurt Bluemel, Inc. Video Catalog of Ornamental Grasses.
Landscape Design Process.
The Life Cycle of the Honeybee.
National Xeriscape Council: Xeriscape.
Peculiar Plants — Marty Stouffer.
Waterwise Gardening: Beautiful Gardens with Less Water.



theory bring the reader to the 18th century. The author spends some time explaining the quarrel that erupted between Sir William Chambers and Lancelot "Capability" Brown. These views polarized design philosophies in a dispute which continues even today, although in his closing chapter the author looks forward to a resolution.

The history of the seed industry proceeds side by side with technological innovations. The passionate writings of many men and women — some trained botanists, some architects — sparring with dedicated, self-educated, practicing gardeners, make very real the deep emotional ties they all felt toward their lands, however large or small each holding was.

This book provides a concise overview of garden history. Everyone who enjoys his garden will benefit from the reading of it. There are many pages of color illustrations of exceptional quality. Garden plans, photographs and illustrations from a variety of sources further illuminate the text. The bibliography, as well as books mentioned throughout, offers suggestions for future reading. The notes are clear, and a source list of illustrations and an index are also included.

Virginia Stratton,
 DBG volunteer



A GARDENER'S ALPHABET



Elizabeth Harbour

A Gardener's Alphabet

By Elizabeth Harbour.
 Michael Joseph, London.
 \$7.95 j SB 450.97 .H3 1990

Does the author have a garden somewhere in Surrey which inspired the puzzle illustrations? Does this private Eden exist only in her imagination?

No matter. Her enjoyment of gardening is evident. The serenity she evokes in her language and art is agreeably spiced by the letters hidden in her watercolor drawings. A bit of shaded hedge represents a "D," the woven rim of a basket filled with apples, the "O." The drawings invite the reader to look at them over and over again. The paragraphs (random thoughts of the author) will spark memories, and if you share the book with a friend, a little pleasant conversation.

Virginia Stratton

LIBRARY JOURNALS

Helen Fowler Library
 Volume 13, No. 4
 December 1990
 Librarian:
 Solange Gignac

Winter
1990

Denver Botanic Gardens

CLASSES

Colorado Ornamentals: Five Favorite Families

(five sessions)

Thursdays, Jan. 17, 24, 31, Feb. 7,
(skip Feb. 14) &
Feb. 21

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom C

Of the hundreds of plants on display in the Rock Alpine Garden, a few special families are particularly adaptable, showy assets to gardens in our climate. This is an opportunity to take a closer look at some of these families, where they come from and what their value is to Colorado gardens.

Thursday, Jan. 17:
A Rainbow of Irises

Some 300 species of iris occur throughout the north temperate zone. These vary from Himalayan alpinists an inch or two high to giant swamp dwellers of the Louisiana bayous. Learn garden-worthy examples from each of the many subgroups of this large plant genus.

Thursday, Jan. 24:
Lovely Labiates

Although the mint family has long been appreciated for its contributions to the herb garden, these aromatic plants have never achieved the ornamental status they deserve. Discover some that have a long blooming season and heat and drought tolerance.

Class locations:

Classrooms A, B and C are at 1005 York Street, Denver.

The DBG Morrison Horticultural Demonstration Center is at 2320 East 11th Avenue, Denver.

Chatfield Arboretum is at 9201 South Carr Street, Littleton (southwest of Wadsworth Boulevard and C-470).

Thursday, Jan. 31:
Darling Yellow (and Pastel) Daisies

An Englishman once suggested that the Rockies be renamed the "Daisy Chain." This nickname might suit our gardens as well, since this family figures prominently in our home landscapes. Learn how botanists break this huge family into "tribes" to help understand this delightfully confusing family.

Thursday, Feb. 7:
Scrumptious Scrophs

The figworts may not be household names in Colorado yet, but our mountains and gardens are painted vivid hues with their flowers for much of the growing season. In this class we will concentrate on the genus *Penstemon*, which includes 250 species of wildflowers native to the U.S., and see how they can be adapted to our gardens.

Thursday, Feb. 21:
Phantastic Phloxes

Reginald Farrer suggested that the day phloxes were first introduced to horticulture be designated a national holiday. Many gardeners would heartily agree. No genus of native plants has taken more readily to gardens worldwide, yet there are many that are hardly known. Examine this genus botanically and for its horticultural potential.

Instructors: An enthusiastic teacher and plantsman, Panayoti Kelaidis is curator of DBG's award-winning Rock Alpine Garden. Sandy Snyder assists in the Rock Alpine Garden and will teach the session on daisies.

Fee: \$40 members/\$48 nonmembers

December and Those Winter Chores

Tuesday, Dec. 4 Classroom C
7 to 9 p.m.

December, busy as it is with preparations for the holidays, is also a month that requires a little time in the garden.

In this class you will learn about plants that need mulching in December and January, what to use as a mulch, how to avoid salt damage to your lawn and storm damage to your woody plants and how to do minor winter pruning.

Instructor: Andrew Pierce is assistant director of DBG. As a horticulturist he is an accomplished grower of perennials and alpine plants.

Fee: \$8 members/\$10 nonmembers

Limit: 18

Success with Houseplants

(four sessions)

Mondays, Jan. 7, 14, 21 & 28

7 to 8:30 p.m. Classroom A

Create an indoor garden of well-grown tropical and subtropical plants. Novices and advanced gardeners will learn basic professional techniques of growing healthy houseplants. Cultural topics such as light, water, fertilizer, soil and pest control will be covered in addition to information on the selection of plants for specific areas of your home.

Instructor: Louise Riverso is a professional interior plantscape designer who operates her own garden and interior plant service company.

Fee: \$24 members/\$29 nonmembers

Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206

Fees for courses should be paid in advance by charge, check or money order made out to Denver Botanic Gardens. Since space is limited in many courses, registration should be mailed in promptly. Your name will be placed on the class list the day your payment is received. No enrollments for class by phone please. All courses given are subject to a minimum enrollment of ten students. For further information, please call 331-4000.

Registration Form for Classes, Field Trips and Lectures

Enclosed is _____ to cover the registration fees for the following classes:

Name and section of class(es) _____

Name _____

Member of Denver Botanic Gardens? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Member ID _____

(on top line of newsletter address label)

Address _____

City _____ ZIP code _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cash ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐

_____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

Beginning Bonsai

(four sessions)

Thursdays, Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31

7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Classroom B

This popular introductory course will cover the history and culture of bonsai. Instruction on styling, training, potting and care of bonsai will be included. Each student will take home a completed bonsai, and all materials will be provided.

Instructors: Keith Jeppson, former president of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society, is an experienced bonsai hobbyist of 18 years. Harold Sasaki is a commercial bonsai grower with 19 years' experience.

Fee: \$56.50 members/\$62.50 nonmembers (includes \$22 for materials)

Limit: 16

The Basics of Organic Gardening

(four sessions)

Section I: Saturdays, Jan. 12, 19, 26 & February 2

Classroom C 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Section II: Saturdays, March 9, 16, 23 & 30
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**Visitor Center
Chatfield Arboretum**

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

The focus of this basic organic gardening course will be on feeding the soil to feed the gardener. The principles of composting, soil testing and amending humus content will be stressed. Early, mid-, late-season crops, season extenders, crop rotation, site selection, appropriate varieties of fruits and vegetables for our climate, and seed sources will all be covered.

Learn watering techniques, companion planting, how to start your own transplants, and how to prevent and control pests and diseases safely. There will be discussion of urban gardening techniques such as intensive gardening and wide-row, double dug beds as well as reference to lesser known varieties of easy-to-grow, nutritious vegetables.

Instructor: Judy Elliott is an enthusiastic teacher with 15 years of organic gardening experience. She is a master gardener who assists "Dr. Green" at DBG.

Fee: \$32 members/\$38 nonmembers

Making Roses a Part of the Garden

Wednesday, Jan. 23

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom A

Roses are too often relegated to a separate area in the garden and not allowed to socialize with other plants. This class is not on how to grow and care for roses, but rather how to marry them happily, both aesthetically and culturally, with perennials, annuals, and other members of the garden.

Instructor: Lauren Springer studied horticulture at Penn State University. She has gardened in England, Ireland, the Midwest, and Colorado, and is a garden writer for the *Denver Post*.

Fee: \$8 members/\$10 nonmembers

Shrubs for Seasonal Interest

(four sessions)

Wednesdays

Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6 & 13

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom C

From the first spring flush of forsythia flowers through the final brilliant blaze of burning bush foliage, well-chosen shrubs can add color and interest to your landscape.

You will view slides of shrubs suitable for wet, dry, sunny and shady situations in Front Range gardens. Learn space requirements for proper placement and how to prune shrubs to maintain their natural shapes.

Instructor: Alan Rollinger, a graduate of CSU, is a professional landscape designer specializing in residential planning. He has done over 800 landscaping projects and has lectured and taught over 20 years.

Fee: \$32 members/\$38 nonmembers.

The Water-Wise Flower Garden

(two sessions)

Tuesdays, Jan. 29 and Feb. 5

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom A

Water-wise gardening is in your future, and in the Denver region are examples of innovative approaches to suit all tastes. Most attention, however, has been paid to woody plants and grasses rather than showier herbaceous plants. If you have an ongoing love affair with flowers, become acquainted with a rich palette of perennials, annuals and bulbs to enhance your garden through the seasons with little watering.

Instructor: Lauren Springer

Fee: \$16 members/\$19 nonmembers

Herbs in the Garden

Wednesday, Jan. 30

7 to 9 p.m. Classroom A

Most gardeners don't have the time or space for an elaborate, formal herb garden. Many herbs are beautiful, however, as well as useful, and they can be combined effectively with other plants. Learn about growing them to add texture, color, form and fragrance to your garden, and how to incorporate them artistically with annuals, perennials, shrubs and roses.

Instructor: Lauren Springer

Fee: \$8 members/\$10 nonmembers

Know and Grow Ground Covers

Saturday, Feb. 6

9 a.m. to noon Classroom C

Learn about the wealth of garden "carpets" other than turfgrass. Among them are mock strawberry, veronicas, sweet woodruff, creeping thymes and dwarf cotoneasters. The instructor will cover their selection, space requirements and maintenance, including mowing and fertilizing.

Instructor: Alan Rollinger

Fee: \$12 members/\$14 nonmembers.

Backyard Composting

Section I: Saturday, Feb. 9
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Morrison Center

Section II: Saturday, Feb. 16
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**Visitor Center
Chatfield Arboretum**

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

It doesn't smell, it's rich in organic material and it will help your garden grow. It's compost. Learn how to prepare compost to have a supply of valuable organic material for your spring garden.

Instructor: Judy Elliott

Fee: \$8 members/\$10 nonmembers

Miniature Roses: Culture and Care Workshop

Section I: Saturday, Feb. 16
9:30 to 11:00 a.m.
Section II: Tuesday, Feb. 26
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Please indicate your section on your registration form.

Classroom B

Learn the step-by-step process of propagating miniature roses from cuttings, and how to care for them indoors and outdoors. You will take home a cutting.

Instructor: Joan Franson

Fee: \$10 members/\$12 nonmembers (includes \$4 for materials)

Limit: 15

Decorating with Houseplants

(four sessions)

Wednesdays, Feb. 6, 13, 20 & 27
7 to 8:30 p.m. Classroom A

From frilly ferns to strange-shaped cacti, houseplants can add beauty and atmosphere throughout your home. You will learn general characteristics and specific members of the major families and groups of houseplants. Growing tips and guidelines for buying will be provided.

Cacti, euphorbias, palms, ferns and begonias are among the plants to be covered in this detailed treatment of the identification and care of houseplants.

Instructor: Louise Rivero

Fee: \$24 members/\$29 nonmembers

A Palette of Annuals

(two sessions)

Tuesdays, March 5 & 12
7 to 9 p.m. Classroom A

In Colorado we have a perfect climate for growing the brightest, most beautiful annuals. Beyond the old friends — petunias, alyssums and marigolds — lies a whole world of other gems waiting to be discovered, planted and grown.

Meet some of these lesser known annuals for all situations — for sun, drought, shade, fragrance, cutting and drying. Learn where to get them, how to grow them and how to combine them creatively with each other and with other plants.

Instructor: Lauren Springer

Fee: \$16 members/\$19 nonmembers

Attracting and Feeding Backyard Birds

(two sessions)

Mondays, Dec. 3 & 10
6 to 8:30 p.m. Morrison Center

It's never too late to start feeding birds in your yard. Learn to avoid less desirable species, such as starlings, and to encourage chickadees, nuthatches, goldfinches, siskins and others.

The preferred foods of specific species, proper placement of feeders and houses, and sources of good, cheap food will be covered. You will also learn which plants you can add to your landscape to attract even more four-toed friends.

Instructor: Tina Jones

Fee: \$20 members/\$24 nonmembers

Pasta I: Classic Tuscan Recipes

Saturday, Jan. 12
9:30 to noon

Kitchen, next to DBG Library

Learn basic sauces, some exciting variations, and how to match them wisely with fresh or dried pastas. Some of the classic vegetarian dishes you will master are from Sarchielli family recipes several hundred years old.

Instructor: An accomplished chef, food consultant and teacher, Judith Fine-Sarchielli lived in Italy 15 years.

Fee: \$16.50 members/\$20 nonmembers (includes \$4.50 for materials)

Limit: 12

Winter Soups: Classic Tuscan Recipes

Saturday, Jan. 26
9:30 a.m. to noon

Kitchen, next to DBG Library

Many of these simple and delicious soup recipes have satisfied Florentine families for centuries. *Minestrone*, *Pasta e Fagioli*, *Minestre e Cacciucco* are examples of the tasty, unusual dishes you can serve as main courses — for everyday or party meals.

Instructor: Judith Fine-Sarchielli

Fee: \$16.50 members/\$20 nonmembers (includes \$4.50 for materials)

Limit: 12

Winter Pruning

Saturday, Feb. 9

9 a.m. to noon

Polly Steele Nature Center
Chatfield Arboretum

Lecture and hands-on demonstration will give you the why, how, when, and how much of winter pruning. Choosing and caring for pruning tools will also be covered. Please bring pruning shears if you have them.

Instructor: Paul Groeger is a master gardener, former president of the Men's Garden Club of Denver and a longtime volunteer at the arboretum.

Fee: \$12 members/\$14 nonmembers

Limit: 12

Pasta II: Classic Tuscan Recipes

Saturday, Feb. 2
9:30 to noon

Kitchen, next to DBG Library

In this continuation of Pasta I, you will create cheese sauces and pastas flavored with produce such as wild mushrooms or grilled vegetables. All are Sarchielli family recipes of classic Tuscan dishes.

Instructor: Judith Fine-Sarchielli

Fee: \$16.50 members/\$20 nonmembers (includes \$4.50 for materials)

Limit: 12

Designer Pizzas!

Saturday, Feb. 16
9:30 to noon

Kitchen, next to DBG Library

Starting with a variety of pizza doughs, you will create mouth-watering, imaginative pizzas with tasty ingredients such as fresh herbs, seafood, eggplant, prosciutto and porcini mushrooms. Finish off the class with dessert pizzas of chocolate, strawberries and ginger.

Instructor: Judith Fine-Sarchielli

Fee: \$16.50 members/\$20 nonmembers (includes \$4.50 for materials)

Limit: 12

Winter Tree Identification

(five sessions)

Saturdays, Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26 & Feb. 2

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

**Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium
Denver Botanic Gardens**

Winter is an ideal time to learn to identify trees by using characteristics such as bark, buds, twigs and overall shape. Please bring a hand lens and a sharp knife.

All sessions are indoors.

Instructor: A former botany instructor at the University of Denver, Dr. Helen Zeiner serves as honorary curator of DBG's Kathryn Kalmbach Herbarium.

Fee: \$40 members/\$48 nonmembers

Limit: 16

Wildflowers of Colorado

Wednesday, Jan. 16

7 to 8:30 p.m. Classroom C

Brighten your winter evening with a slide program of Colorado's wildflowers, from the prairies to the mountain tops. You will travel to our state's many life zones and find out where the old man of the mountain, fairy trumpet, and sky pilot reside. Put away your snow shovel and come to the Gardens for an enlightening show.

Instructor: Joan Franson is a former president of the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, an All-America Rose Selection judge and a dedicated volunteer at Denver Botanic Gardens.

Fee: \$6 members/\$7 nonmembers

Colorado Conifers

Saturday, Feb. 23

1 to 3 p.m.

**Visitor Center
Chatfield Arboretum**

Learning to recognize the native Colorado conifer trees is the subject of this indoor session. You will learn to identify the trees by simple characteristics of the leaves (needles) and cones. Interesting facts and the natural histories of native conifer trees will be discussed.

Instructor: Jim Trammell

Fee: \$9 members/\$11 nonmembers (includes \$1 for materials)

Limit: 12

Rocky Mountain Arsenal Field Trip

Sunday, Jan. 20 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Learn about the history of Rocky Mountain Arsenal and the current plans for cleaning up the contamination from past production and storage of weapons and chemicals. See how this 27-mile island in a sea of civilization is coming back to life with bald and golden eagles guarding its skies. Expect to see hawks, coyotes, mule deer and white-tailed deer.

There is no charge for this field trip but advance reservation *must* be made through the education department.

Meet: Shortly after 1 p.m. at the west gate, 72nd Avenue and Quebec Street in Commerce City. A bus will meet you there and take you into the arsenal. No private cars are allowed on the grounds.

Instructor: A park ranger or wildlife biologist from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will lead this tour.

Fee: No charge but advance reservation is required. Call 331-4000, ext. 20, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., or use the registration form.

Limit: 70

Hawks, Owls and Bald Eagles

(two classroom sessions plus a field trip)

**Tuesdays, Jan. 15 & 29
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, Feb. 2
(field trip)
8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

**Visitor Center
Chatfield Arboretum**

Do you realize that many bald and golden eagles are found in the Denver-Boulder area during the winter? This beginners' course will reveal specific raptor identification and behavior beyond information usually found in field guides. Classroom sessions will cover detailed identification characteristics of Colorado birds of prey, including owls.

Location of the field trip will be given at a class session. Bring a bird field guide to the first class session.

Instructors: Naturalist Tina Jones has birded throughout the U.S. and teaches bird behavior and bird identification classes. Ann Bonnell, naturalist at Roxborough State Park, leads bird walks and is a former board director of Denver Field Ornithologists.

Fee: \$32 members/\$38 nonmembers

Limit: 20

Christmas for Critters

Saturday, Dec. 29

10 a.m. to noon

**Visitor Center
Chatfield Arboretum**

Join naturalist guides and volunteers at Chatfield Arboretum to decorate the trees with natural foods for birds and wildlife.

Donations of unsalted seeds and fruits will be accepted for our critters (birdseed mixes, sunflowers, peanuts, popcorn, whole corn, cracked corn, suet or uncooked animal fat, peanut butter). Natural fibers and twine will be used to hang the food ornaments. Please do not bring synthetic materials such as monofilament line.

Fee: \$1 adults/children free

Winter Nature Walk

Sunday, Jan. 13

**1 to 3 p.m.
(Gate opens at 12:30 p.m.)**

**Visitor Center
Chatfield Arboretum**

The entire family will enjoy this afternoon walk through the arboretum. The serenity of winter and the starkness of the trees offer excellent opportunities to observe winter wildlife. How plants and animals survive winter will also be explored. Come prepared for the weather. Hot chocolate will be served in the nature center.

Instructor: Jim Trammell

Fee: \$4 adult members/\$5 adult nonmembers. Children under 16 free.

Limit: 12 adult registrations

Simple Bird Feeders: Family Workshop

Saturday, Jan. 5

1 to 3 p.m.

**Visitor Center
Chatfield Arboretum**

Parents and children can spend an afternoon in our cozy one-room schoolhouse and make a simple bird feeder to take home or hang at the arboretum. After a short program on feeding birds in winter, each child will make a feeder from recycled materials. All materials and bird feed will be provided.

Instructor: Jim Trammell, Chatfield Arboretum naturalist, will be assisted by volunteer naturalist guides.

Fee: \$4 per child/adults free (includes all materials)

Limit: 15 children

Basic Beekeeping

(three sessions)

Saturdays, Feb. 16, 23 & March 2

9 a.m. to noon

Polly Steele Nature Center
Chatfield Arboretum

This class is designed to show beginners how to get started in beekeeping, step by step. You will learn the entire procedure from setting up a hive to harvesting honey. A discussion of interesting facts about honey plants, bee behavior and ecology will also be included.

A field trip to a local apiculturist and beekeeping supplier is included. Reference books, supply catalogs and supplies will be on display.

Instructor: Carol Dawson, an enthusiastic teacher and beekeeper, is a research associate at Denver Botanic Gardens. She has kept bees for several enjoyable years.

Fee: \$36 members/\$43 nonmembers

Limit: 12

Bent-Willow Furniture Making

(three sessions)

Saturday, Jan. 12, 19 & 26

9 a.m. to noon

Polly Steele Nature Center
Chatfield Arboretum

Learn the pioneer art of making furniture from the supple branches of freshly cut willows.

During the first session you will learn how to identify and find native willow twigs. Selection of the proper sizes and lengths of the twigs is important to construct different sections of the furniture. Please bring sharp pruning shears and a hammer. In the following sessions students will work together to make one simple piece of furniture which will be used at the arboretum. *Please come dressed for outdoor activity on Saturday, January 12th.*

Instructor: Chris Hartung is the resident horticulturist at Chatfield Arboretum. He has made willow furniture for his home.

Fee: \$39 members/\$46 nonmembers (includes \$3 for materials)

Limit: 12

Watercolor Workshop

Wednesday, Dec. 19

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Classroom B

Watercolor painting is one of the most challenging of the wet media. In this course students will receive instruction in value control, color mixture



and structuring forms by emphasizing the relationship between light and shadow and by the selective softening of edges. Dry brush and wet-on-wet techniques will be demonstrated.

Bring watercolor supplies, drawing paper, charcoal and your lunch.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky teaches drawing, watercolor and oil painting at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design.

Fee: \$22 members/\$26 nonmembers

Limit: 15

Tempera-Ink Resist Painting

(three sessions)

Tuesdays, Jan. 8, 15 & 22

9:30 to noon Classroom B

This is an exciting new way to achieve surprising "antique" results in your flower paintings. The black ink gives an unusual effect to the backgrounds and deep shadows of the leaves and petals. The tempera paint resists the ink that is painted over the final composition. The surprise happens in the final wash-off stage.

Instructor: A talented artist, Helen Buznedo has extensive teaching experience and is a member of the Denver Allied Arts Guild.

Fee: \$40 members/\$46 nonmembers (includes \$10 for materials)

Limit: 15

Watercolor Painting

(five sessions)

Wednesdays, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30 & Feb. 6

Section I: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Section II: 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Please indicate your section on the registration form.

Classroom B

Explore the sparkle and delicacy of watercolor painting while you enjoy the natural setting of Denver Botanic Gardens. This course will cover the basic materials and techniques of watercolors, with emphasis on freedom of personal expression.

Come prepared with supplies: a one-inch flat brush, #10 round brush, watercolor paper, tissues, container for water, plastic palette and cake or tube watercolors.

Instructor: Boris Shoshensky

Fee: \$60 members/\$72 nonmembers

Limit: 15

Art in Nature

(six sessions)

Mondays, Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11 & 18

7 to 8:30 p.m.

John C. Mitchell II Hall

This series of slide presentations, accompanied by narratives and musical selections, will illuminate the interrelationship of the arts and nature. From the plant drawings of Leonardo da Vinci to Georgia O'Keeffe's floral studies, you will explore artists' interpretations of nature from the Renaissance to the twentieth century.

Instructor: Oksana Ross, Ph.D., is an art historian, artist and pianist. She has taught at the University of Colorado at Denver, Metropolitan State College and Colorado Women's College.

Fee: \$36 members/\$43 nonmembers

Drawing from Nature

(six sessions)

Thursdays, Jan. 17, 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14 & 21

1 to 3 p.m. Classroom B

From living plants to still lifes, from realism to abstraction, learn to see, sketch and draw natural forms and designs, then translate black and white studies into exciting color. You will receive instruction in assorted media and subject matter.

Bring a large sketch pad, soft charcoal and drawing pencils to the first class.

Instructor: Oksana Ross, Ph.D.

Fee: \$48 members/\$58 nonmembers

Limit: 20

Paeonia masculata, one of the peonies of Greece, in the Gardens' collection of botanical illustrations.

Announcing The Denver Botanic Gardens School of Botanic Illustration

Accredited by the University of Colorado

The School of Botanical Illustration will offer a series of courses providing a comprehensive education in the scientific illustration of plants. Students will have the opportunity to start with fundamental principles and drawing skills, and systematically learn the techniques of many media, as well as focus on design and composition.

After successfully finishing the six required courses, students will receive a certificate of completion. The School of Botanical Illustration is open to amateur, professional and student artists. Students may choose to take courses without receiving college credit.

One college credit hour will be awarded for each pair of six-week classes completed, either I and II, III and IV, or V and VI. Classes are graded and homework is required only for students seeking college credit. Questions, including those about eligibility to enter above the beginning level, should be directed to the education department at 331-4000, Ext. 20.

I. Beginning Drawing

Thursdays, Jan. 17 to Feb. 21
(six sessions)

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Classroom B

Learn the basics of representational drawing using fresh flower specimens. This class stresses careful observation, with emphasis on perspective and shading with pencil. This is an ideal course for the beginner or an excellent refresher course.

Fee: \$50 members/\$60 nonmembers for non-credit students. College credit course fee is \$125 for Parts I and II.

II. Drawing in Color

Thursdays, Feb. 28 to April 11
(skip March 21)
(six sessions)

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Classroom B

Students will begin to work in colored pencil, refining their skills to accurately and realistically produce renderings of plants. The emphasis is on proper technique to achieve highlights, depth and texture.

Fee: \$50 members/\$60 nonmembers for non-credit students. College credit course fee is \$125 for Parts I and II.

III. Beginning Watercolor

Thursdays, April 18 to May 30
(skip May 9)
(six sessions)

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Classroom B

This class is an introduction to watercolor theory, color mixing and brush techniques for botanical illustration. Students will experiment with washes and drybrush techniques in transparent and opaque manners, and use watercolor to build an accurate rendering of plants and flowers drawn in previous courses.

Fee: \$50 members/\$60 nonmembers for non-credit students. College credit course fee is \$125 for Parts III and IV.

IV. Drawing for Publication

Thursdays, June 6 to July 18
(skip July 4)
(six sessions)

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Classroom B

Students will apply the skills learned in previous courses to draw plants for publication. Techniques include pen and ink, scratchboard, paste-up, layout, overlays and corrections. Students will learn to prepare illustrations for reduction and enlargement and will work with lettering and printing techniques.

Fee: \$50 members/\$60 nonmembers for non-credit students. College credit course fee is \$125 for III and IV.

V. Botanical Illustration, Mixed Media

Thursdays, July 25 to Aug. 29
(six sessions)

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Classroom B

Students will continue to work with the techniques already described, along with optional media such as pastels and acrylics to create a portfolio of botanical illustrations in color. The emphasis of this class is on accuracy, personal development and refinement, as well as proper matting and presentation of works.

Fee: \$50 members/\$60 nonmembers for non-credit students. College credit course fee is \$125 for Parts V and VI.



*'Bonica' rose,
drawing by
Rob Proctor.*

VI. Advanced Botanical Illustration

Thursdays, Sept. 5 to Oct. 10
(six sessions)

9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Classroom B

Students will continue to work in their choice of media and will be expected to produce a portfolio of the highest quality. The emphasis of the course is on personal growth and individualized instruction.

Fee: \$50 members/\$60 nonmembers for non-credit students. College credit course fee is \$125 for Parts V and VI.

Instructors

Angela Overy received her National Diploma of Design from London University. As a designer and illustrator, she worked in London, New York and San Francisco before settling in Denver where she has taught for ten years.

Rob Proctor is the author and illustrator of *Antique Flowers: Perennials* and the forthcoming *Antique Flowers: Annuals*. A talented artist, he has lectured and taught at Denver Botanic Gardens for five years.

C O M M U N I T Y

Regular Meetings of Plant Societies

A number of plant and horticultural groups meet fairly regularly at Denver Botanic Gardens. Here is a listing of those groups and a **general** indication of when they usually meet. For more specific meeting times and locations as well as for information on how to contact a representative of the group, please call the Botanic Gardens switch-board during business hours at 331-4000.

African Violet Society, 4th Thurs. of 7 months; **Bonsai Society**, 1st & 3rd Tues.; **Cactus & Succulent Society**, 2nd Tues.; **Civic Garden Club**, 1st Fri.; **Colorado Native Plant Society**, 4th Wed.; **Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers**, 1st Sat.; **Hemerocallis Society**, 3rd Sun. of 4 months; **Ikebana International**, 4th Fri.; **Iris Society**, spring & fall dates; **Men's Garden Club**, 4th Thurs.; **Mycological Society**, 2nd Mon.; **Rock Garden Society**, 3rd Wed.; **Rose Society**, 2nd Thurs.; **Ultra Violet Club**, 4th Mon.; **Water Garden Society**, 2nd Sun. of 5 months.

C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R
	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
							1 Toys for Every Gardener
	2 <i>*First meeting of a class with more than one session</i>	3 Attracting and Feeding Backyard Birds*	4 December and Those Winter Chores	5	6	7 Herald the Season	8 Teddy Bear Teas
	9 High Teas	10	11 Holiday Concert	12	13 Free Day, Holiday Concert	14	15 Teddy Bear Teas
	16 High Teas	17	18 Holiday Concert	19 Watercolor Workshop	20 Holiday Concert	21	22
	23	24	25 Closed Christmas Day	26	27	28	29 Christmas for Critters
	30	31					



Denver Botanic Gardens is grateful for funds from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District, which have enabled the Gardens to better maintain its facilities, expand services and enhance the quality of programs and exhibits.

Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc.
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206
303-331-4000

Address correction requested

TIME VALUE
December 1990



Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 205
Denver, CO